EARTH FIRST!

BELTANE EDITION

May 1, 1987 Vol. VII, No. V

THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL TWO DOLLARS

Grand Canyon Uranium Heats Up

by Mary Sojourner

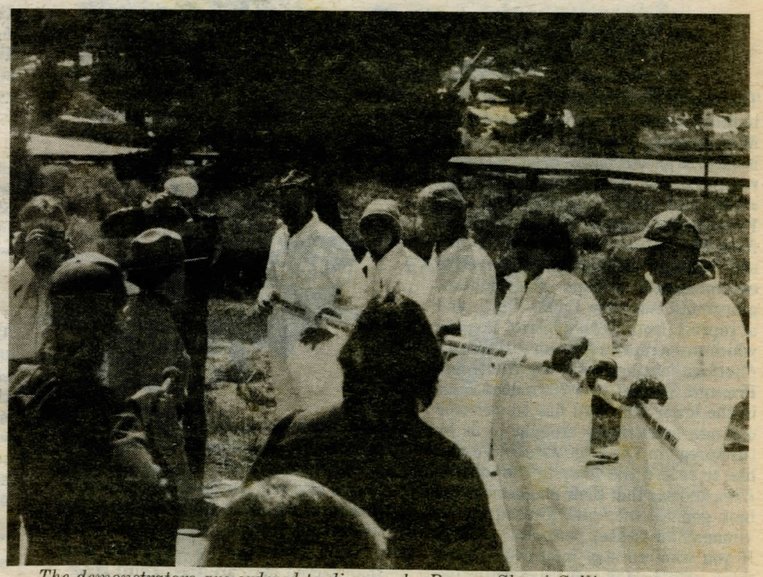
Looking back, I'm surprised to find that it's not the day itself I remember, though the air was clear and light with indigo snowclouds hung over the far North Rim; nor is it the actual stepping with Kirk Bastian, Karen Benthien, John Davis, Dave Foreman, Bruce Green, Lynn Jacobs and Jon Vetnick across the access road to the West Rim Drive (the drive that meanders close to the closed but still glowing Orphan uranium mine). It's not the carefully cool face of the arresting Ranger nor the well-produced gosh-darn woodsiness of the Energy Fools Nuclear public relations crew. It's not even the joy of hearing our friends chanting and singing behind us . . . "Leave the Canyon Alone" . . . "This Land is Your Land" . . . "Take Your Bulldozers from Under Our Noses."

Instead I hear the voices of four women (two names have been changed to protect the innocent) sitting in a tiny cell in the Coconino County Jail: Karen, 27, no longer scared, telling stories of her girlhood, knowing it was "time to do something really strong"; Judy, 18, busted that afternoon for one of those sad little crimes with not so little consequences, for shoplifting crayons for her little nephew, both of them no longer living at home, home gone to Peabody Coal maybe . . . "one of those big companies"; Winnie, 23 or 33 or 43, desperately hung-over, her son, "that boy" (it binds the dead soul to the living to speak its name) dead a week, her arrested on P.I., fighting because some man said "that boy's" death was her fault; and me, 47, tied to nothing, free at last to stand steady in an illegal act and be arrested for believing that the Grand Canyon and its surrounding forests and high desert are no place for uranium mines.

We, loosely known as the Canyon Eight, were charged with three counts — blocking a road in a public park, refusing to obey an officer's instructions, and demonstrating without a permit. We were there — after two years of teach-ins, letters, meetings, petitions, demonstrations and civil obedience — to protest the failure of the Forest Service, Park Service and Bureau of Land Mis-management to STOP uranium mining around the Grand Canyon. (A brief history of bureaucratic impotence and uranium mining industry arrogance accompanies this article.) We had chosen the West Rim Drive of Grand Canyon National Park (GCNP) because it swings by the abandoned Orphan Mine, the land surrounding which was described at a recent toxic waste symposium as "highly radioactive." No one in GCNP management seemed to know how "hot" the area was or why the adjacent trail had not been closed; nor did they seem able to protect the uranium mining on their boundaries, so we stepped out and closed the highway for twenty splendid minutes.

Our (and the Canyon's) support people sang and sang, led by a wildly enthusiasic, five foot six racoon; they held signs that said, "Repeal the 1872 Mining Law," "We want a Regional Environmental Impact Statement," and, most simply and strongly, "Leave It in the Ground." EFN fluttered around with videocams, somehow managing to look like Yuppie lumberjacks. The media zoomed back and forth, some of them whispering, "We're glad you're here . . . THANK YOU!" The Eight sat across the road in our radiation suits, linked by 60 feet of day-glo pink Hazardous Warning tape and the warm grip of our hands. Ranger Collins came and did her job.

As the metal cuffs clicked around my wrists, as I watched GCNP law enforcement rangers bring my friends, one by one, to the waiting van until Dave stood



The demonstrators are ordered to disperse by Ranger Sherri Collins. Photo by Dan Dagget.

alone and an unknown man stepped out to hug him; it was suddenly over. There was nothing left to do . . . for the next few hours . . . or days . . . but return again and again to the difficult, simple principles of non-violence in which we had been trained, to which we had agreed. I am not non-violent. I have wrenched a liar from a motel bed and slammed him on the floor; I have held a burning cigarette over a stranger's arm to make him stop screaming at a woman; I have taken slaps in the face . . . and given them. Two of my favorite songs are Bruce Cockburn's "If I Had a Rocket Launcher," and The Who's "We're Not Gonna Take it." I had been trained in non-violence; I had not embraced it.

But, as we moved quietly through the lengthy booking process in the GCNP Visitor Center and saw the warmth in some of the Rangers' eyes, heard the Booking Officer say that we had taught them something, I began to sense that we were much more than demonstrators . . . we were teachers. And, our subjects were not just the crucial ones of the dangers of uranium mining in and near the Canyon, the threats to water and air and falcon and Elk, the dread-full risk of removing uranium from the protecting body of Mother Earth, and the murder of Havasupai spiritual practice. Our subjects were also decency and doing one's work and behaving with loving grace under pressure . . . our subject was monkeywrenching in its highest form . . . turning the junk and jumble

continued on page 4

CD Begins Anew in Kalmiopsis

Photo by David Cross.

Helen Matthews, Mike Roselle, and David Barron at Hobson Horn in the Kalmiopsis.

by David Barron

It is Thursday and about 100 folks have filled a UC Berkeley auditorium to hear the ramblings of Captain Paul Watson, fearless leader of our Earth First! Navy, Sea Shepherd. Watson stuns us with stories of his actions aboard the *Sea Shepherd*: ramming pirate whalers, chasing seal clubbers, interfering in dolphin kills. Not only has he done outrageous things in defense of Earth, but he supports his acts with a strong sense of morality, and he leaves us inspired and ready to run out and scuttle whaling ships and rip apart driftnets.

Afterward, we're having beers with Watson at a pub when I hear that Roselle is heading to Oregon for an action in the North Kalmiopsis. I think back to the summer following the Bald Mountain blockades when I first heard about Earth First! and decided to see what the fuss had been over. I hiked a trail winding up from the Illinois River through chaparral of manzanita and madrone, rising through tanoak and Bigleaf Maple into the majestic old growth Douglas Firs, into a forest primeval with moss and lichen-covered stones, into a cathedral of mighty trees older than the Sistine Chapel. Coming up onto a saddle, my peace was shattered by the sight of a gravel road lined with bleeding stumps. As I recall that horrific scene, I decide to join the new forces mounting to defend the North Kalmiopsis.

continued on page 5

EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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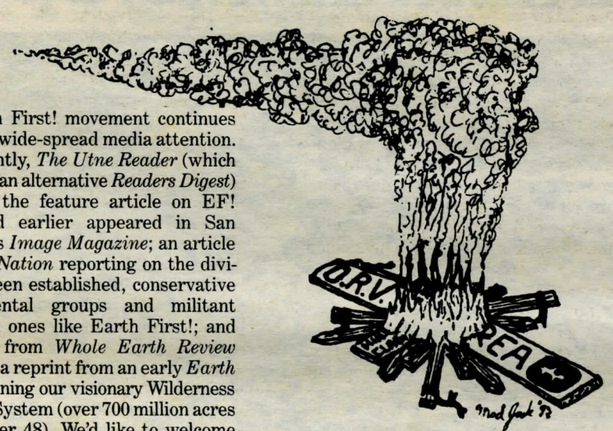
Around the Campfire



The Earth First! movement continues to receive wide-spread media attention. Most recently, *The Utne Reader* (which is billed as an alternative *Readers Digest*) reprinted the feature article on EF! which had earlier appeared in San Francisco's *Image Magazine*; an article from *The Nation* reporting on the division between established, conservative environmental groups and militant grassroots ones like Earth First!; and a reprint from *Whole Earth Review* which was a reprint from an early *Earth First!* outlining our visionary Wilderness Preserve System (over 700 million acres in the lower 48). We'd like to welcome our new subscribers brought to us by the spread in *The Utne Reader.* I'd also like to return the favor to the folks at *Utne* and say that their magazine is the best general (not just focused on environmental issues) periodical around. If you want to stay informed, I can't think of a better way than with *The Utne Reader.* All of us at the Tucson office swill it down like a cold six-pack on a hot Arizona day when it arrives. Write for a subscription ($24 for 6 copies a year) or a sample copy ($4) to Box 1974, Marion, OH 43305.

Now, none of us involved in the production of this newspaper knows a thing about journalism. We've learned by doing. (And I'm sure some of our production techniques would provoke gales of laughter from people who really know something about putting out a newspaper.) It was therefore a double compliment to be named not only the best environmental, but the best movement periodical in the United States by *New Options* in their review of the "Ten best movement magazines." They say, "But *Earth First! The* Radical *Environmental Journal* is something more: it is a phenomenon, a Force. It is as full of life and diversity, of exuberance and brilliance, as the movement we need to create."

High praise. And we gratefully accept it on behalf of our enormously talented and thought-full correspondents who make this newspaper what it is. Allow me to also pay a compliment to *New Options* — it is a provocative and questing publication, seeking answers and questions far beyond the moribund ideas of both the left and the right. It gives meaning and credibility to the concept of "post-liberal." (You could also call it "post-New Age" to boot.) It rocks the boat, it kicks sacred cows, it's not stuffed in any pigeonhole. And it *will* make you think. $25 for a year's subscription (11 issues), $2 for a back issue, from POB 19324, Washington, DC 20036. (Editor Mark Satin performs a noble service as a movement gadfly.)

Speaking of kicking sacred cows, there are a few kicks at several of them in this issue of *Earth First!*. There is, of course, no more sacred cow in these hallowed pages than that of Deep Ecology. W.J. Lines, nonetheless, aims a few kicks that way, calling Deep Ecology anthropocentric! (And you know what? The kicks connect.) Read his piece, "Is Deep Ecology Deep Enough?" and chew on it.

Another common article of faith in our tribe is that of the Noble Savage. We continually turn to indigenous tribal peoples as the "first ecologists." In two vitally important and probing essays, Morgan Sherwood of the Department of History at UC Davis, and our own George Wuerthner examine this sacred cow and find it wanting in "The End of American Wilderness" and "Alaskan Natives — The First Ecologists?" respectively. Powerful stuff and sure to be controversial. Hopefully they will provoke deeper thought as well. (As a sideline, I might add that both of these essays also take on the sacred cow that proclaims Alaska to have the finest and wildest wilderness left.)

Some cows that are decidedly less than sacred here are the "Third Wave" environmentalists. Professor Bill Devall takes them to the woodshed in his review of their "constructive" approach.

All is not negative in this issue, though. In a major investigative report, Ed Grumbine details his visit to the nation of Belize in Central America to sleuth out just what Coca-Cola is doing to the rainforest there. Things are potentially grim in this little-known country, that has more pristine land than anywhere else in Central America, but Coke may not be the villain we feared.

Big wilderness in the Appalachians? You bet, says Jamie Sayen, in his finely crafted essay which introduces a new EF! task force — PAW (Preserve Appalachian Wilderness). Now you folks east of the 100th meridian can't say Earth First! doesn't do anything outside the West. Jamie and friends have a dream — and a project — for you.

Of course the struggle goes on to defend threatened natural diversity and Earth First!ers are lining up on the side of bears throughout this broad land of ours. Read the latest on the Grand Canyon, Kalmiopsis, California Mountain Lions, the Redwoods, and Mt. Graham in these pages.

There is, indeed, plenty of work to keep us busy out there defending the wilds whether we're writing letters, holding a protest sign, feeling the cuffs snap around our wrists, or hefting a crowbar to dismantle a road. Sometimes it does feel like it's all for naught. I was dragging this spring, suffering from the twin hells of overwork and hay fever, when my spirits were buoyed from a most unlikely source. I spoke to New Mexico Earth First! at my old alma mater, the University of New Mexico, last month. It made me feel old, and even lower, because I had graduated from those tumbleweed halls 19 years ago. But after my speech, the Southwest Deputy Regional Forester stood up and did his best to rebut me. We're getting somewhere, muchachos y muchachas, when the number 2 dog for the whole Southwest Region of the Forest Service shows up to do that at an EF! rally. We're kicking 'em somewhere that hurts. Keep it up!

We've discovered a small number of copies of both *The Earth First! Li'l Green Songbook* and *Ecodefense Second Edition* with printing errors. A few of these flawed books may have been sent out in orders. If, perchance, you received a defective copy, drop us a note and we'll send you a good one.

Let me close this column with my most kindly avuncular advice to all of you: All work and no play makes Jack and Jill burned-out little crispy critters. Get out to the wilderness this summer for a good, long backpack or float trip. Reconnect. Ask the trees and rocks what you should be doing. Go home this summer, go home.

— *Dave Foreman*

Please send any newspaper clippings mentioning Earth First! or dealing with subjects of interests to us at POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703. Clippings about monkeywrenching of any kind would also be appreciated. Thank you!

The Post Office does not forward Third Class Mail but they do charge us 30 cents apiece to to send us your change of address. Please send us your change of address promptly so you do not miss an issue of *Earth First!* and we do not have to pay the Post Office to receive it. Some people using clever aliases are not receiving their copies of *Earth First!* . Be sure to notify your postperson that "Attila the Hun" or "The Animal" receives mail at your address.

SCHEDULE

***Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (June 21 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date: October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1. The newspaper is mailed Third Class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for $10 extra a year. Airmail delivery overseas is available for $20 a year extra.**

USUAL DISGUSTING PLEA FOR MONEY

The Earth First! movement runs on your financial support. We don't need as much as other groups since we are grassroots, volunteer, decentralized and have low overhead. Moreover, you get to select where your hard-earned money goes. Don't send your contributions to this newspaper, send it directly to one of these hard working groups:

***Earth First! Foundation, POB 50681, Tucson, AZ 85703**
(contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible)
***Nomadic Action Group (Mike Roselle), POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**
***EF! Grizzly Bear Task Force, POB 283, Cedar Key, FL 32625**
***Colorado Earth First!, POB 1166, Boulder, CO 80306**
***Arizona Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703**
***Texas Earth First!, POB 7292, University Station, Austin, TX 78713**
***Oregon Earth First!, POB 605, Joseph, OR 97846**
***Montana Earth First!, Box 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715**
***Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**
***Washington Earth First!, POB 95316, Seattle, WA 98145**
***Santa Cruz Earth First!, POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061**
***New Mexico Earth First!, c/o 3957 Westview, Las Cruces, NM 88005**
***Los Angeles Earth First!, 13110 Bloomfield St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423**

This fundraising appeal is placed as a service to the Earth First! movement. ***THANK YOU for your support!***

EARTH FIRST!
Beltane Edition
May 1, 1987
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Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is published by Ned Ludd Publications and is an independently owned newspaper within the broad Earth First! movement. It is not the "official newsletter" of the Earth First! movement. Entire contents are copyrighted 1987, but we are pleased to allow reprinting if credit is given, except for those articles specifically copyrighted by the author. Art and photographs are copyrighted by the individual artist or photographer and permission to use must be received from them. *Earth First!* is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this newspaper, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Due to our tight budget, no payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

Dave Foreman, Editor & Publisher
John Davis, Managing Editor
Leon Czolgosz, Associate Editor
Dixie Dalton, Merchandise Manager
Mike Roselle, Roving Editor
David Cross, Roving Editor
Roger Featherstone, Roving Editor
Art Goodtimes, Poetry Editor

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Contributing Artists: Canyon Frog, Helen Wilson, Jim Stiles, John Zaelit, Karen Tanner, Mike Roselle, B. von Alten, T.O. Hellenbach, Lone Wolf Circles, Mad Jack, Bill Turk, Mike Gouse, Millipede, Juniper Berry, Christoph Manes, Marcy Willow, Peg Millett.

Contributing Photographers: David Cross, Roger Featherstone, George Wuerthner, Howie Wolke, Doug Peacock, Scott Smith.

Mailing: Tucson Earth First! Group

ADDRESSES

POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 (602)622-1371: Letters to the Editor, Manuscripts, Art, Photographs, etc. for *Earth First!* ; Subscriptions, Changes of Address, Inquiries; Merchandise Orders; Clippings; General Correspondence.

POB 1008, Telluride, CO 81435 (303)728-4301: Poetry, Correspondence with Art Goodtimes.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Dave,

First it was Oral Roberts for eight million dollars. Then poor Jim Bakker for one-fourth million. And now SFB is on the block for ten bucks. What's this world coming to!? Well, anyway, I'm upping the ante — to save SFB. Enclosed is my check for $15! Match that aka L.A.! (Probably stands for Los Angeles and we know about them; the smog's rotted their brains.)

— B2

PS: There's an old Jewish proverb: A word is worth a shekel, silence is worth two. You might pass that on to Greenpeace.

Dear Shit Fer Brains:

I sure agree with Akala that your crude and immoderate use of filthy language is unfit for 15 year old country girls. It is also sophomoric, and distasteful to Jim and Tammy Bakker and all other TV preachers. Back in Officer's training we even learned General George Washington hated it and had to learn by heart his statement to the troops regarding profanity, "the general is sorry to be informed the wicked and foolish practice of profane cursing and swearing, a vice heretofore little known in an American army, is growing into fashion" etc. I can still repeat the whole damn thing.

However, I love your profanity. It sets *EF! Journal* apart from all the rest of the mealy mouthed wimped out chicken shit drivel I read in the rest of the conservation press. Find enclosed a $100 contribution to keep profanity in. Anybody out there willing to raise my contribution?

— Tom Stoddard

Dear Tom Skeele, [Earth First! contact in Yosemite]

Thanks for the note, and the *Earth First!* Interesting paper, to say the least. The name reminds me of Thoreau's famous response to the cornpone Christians who were hassling him, on his deathbed, about the life everlasting and the world to come. He said, "One world at a time!"

In the article on the Forum on Biodiversity I was amazed and pleased to find a reference to peregrine falcons mating with a "special hat worn by a researcher"!! Do you have any idea what these hats look like? Do you know where I can get one? I once watched two redshafted flickers mate just inches over my head, and was so impressed by the experience that I later had an orgasmic dream about it. So what I'm thinking is that these falcon hats could be sold to lonely, undersexed people all over the country who wonder what to do with themselves now that AIDS has put the kibosh on human lasciviousness. Seems to me it might make folks realize there's more to be gained from keeping wild birds and animals and their habitats alive and well than the pioneers and the Pentagon ever suspected.

— David James Duncan

ed. note: David James Duncan is the author of the superb novel, The River Why. *To answer his question about the hats, we refer him to* Saving the Peregrine Falcon *(a children's book!). See "Tribal Lore" review of Carolrhoda Books, this issue.*

Dear SFB,

A hearty Yo-Ho-Ho to the captain and crew of the Sea Shepherd. What a fine job they have done to help get rid of mother rapists. I read this journal with enthusiasm for what EF!ers are doing around the country to help save pieces of turtle island, and I can't help but thinking about the midlands. I live in the heart of monoculture country, dominated by agrichemical corporations and oppressed family farmers. For every bushel of corn harvested here in Ioway three bushels of topsoil are lost. Down the river, never to be seen again except by siltation experts in the Mississippi delta.

We here in the center of the island are losing all hope for the healing of our lands, as the small farmer loses out to corporate buy-outs. The energy wasteful, agrichemical intensive method of farming is threatening the health of the land and its inhabitants (including the two-leggeds).

There are alternatives, but those braindead folks in the statehouse are more concerned with laser technology and genetic engineering than the health of the land. We here in the center need to take hints from our relatives, and work to raise consciousness (and a little hell) so as to begin to bring this part of the country into balance. If any of you EF! veterans can help, please let us know. Long live the prairie! Contact us at: The Ioway River Bioregional Resource Group, Rt. 2 Box 160, North Liberty, Iowa 52317.

— Lanous Nochem

To all you EF! folks,

I'm sorry I let my subscription run out but I've been too low on funds lately. My girlfriend knows how much I enjoy *EF!*, though, so she's footin' the bill for a late x-mas present. Ain't that sweet?

Most of your articles deal with the western states and I can see why. There isn't a lot left back here in the badly raped eastern states. But I appreciate what you do for us nonetheless. I grew up on a farm, although we never owned it, and I came to love the woods and rivers here. It makes me sick to see these "farmers" poison and otherwise uglify this beautiful country. The real pisser of it though is that most people see the farmer as a noble human in touch with nature. That may have been true once but there aren't many of those people left. The farmer of today rarely touches the soil. He is a greedy, wasteful and an uncaring slob. Every farm around here has its own dump and a lot of them are along the Huron River. In these dumps go everything from old TVs and washers, to empty herbicide and pesticide containers. The labels on these cans clearly state the environmental hazards of improper disposal, but I guess the dumb asses can't read. Is there any way to stop these pigs from killing us all just for their short term financial enrichment?

I'm proud to support you. So is my girlfriend.

— Steve Renwand, Monroeville, OH

Editor,

I thank George Wuerthner for his brilliant essay "Managing the Wild Back Into the Wilderness" in the Yule issue. He raises important points concerning the system of wilderness use regulation and backcountry management as currently applied in the US. His term "police state wilderness" is how I feel about this system. As a European having backpacked in many National Parks and Wilderness Areas in the US, I am dismayed at the amount of regulations in such an open-spaced country. In Europe, though much more crowded, such regulations are virtually unknown. Anyone who wishes to explore the Bavarian, Austrian, or Swiss Alps or the wild backcountry in Sweden or Norway can do so without ever having to obtain a backcountry use permit. Americans tend to believe that they live in a free country, yet there are more regulations in the US than in some other countries, at least as far as wilderness recreation is concerned. Having to file for wilderness permits before going into the backcountry is not only a minor hassle, it is above all, as Wuerthner says, an antithesis to the very essence of wilderness. By imposing such a system upon our wild lands, we are eliminating the few remaining realms of freedom.

Wolpertinger

Dear SFB,

A friend told me recently that he had heard that the federal government was embarking on a campaign of truth in government to counter the bad name they had gotten because of the Reagan Iran-Contra fiasco. Apparently, they are issuing new logos for each governmental agency that truthfully depicts their activities.

Several weeks later while walking through the National Forest I was reminded of this conversation. I was surrounded on all sides by huge disgusting clearcuts and rivers running nothing mud. Imagine my surprise when nailed to the only tree I could see for miles was this new Forest Service sign (shown with my letter).

As good citizens perhaps we could help Forest Circus chief Dale Robertson by circulating these logos throughout the forests. I can't wait until I find other new agency logos.

— Truth Finder in the N.W.

John or Dave or whoever,

Friends in Asia have asked me for information on silting in mountain lakes and on water hyacinth population explosions in fresh or brackish water. If you have a contact familiar with the Okeefenokee Swamp or the cleanup of Lake Erie, please send info to me, c/o Box 718, Honolulu, HI 96808.

— Kamahine

Earth First!ers,

Re: "What Price for Pines?" in *UCLA Monthly*, 3-4-87

Get set! Another lunatic anti-environmental idea is in gestation. Stan Trimble of UCLA has targeted trees as prime competitors to humans for scarce water resources. Trees cause droughts, he so much as says! Trees consume 326,000 gallons of water per acre per year, he says, compared to 150 gallons per person per day.

Note the insidiousness of comparing acre-years to person-days. Multiply by 365 and a person uses 54,750 gallons a year, by Trimble's data. How many gallons would an acre of people use in a year?

Trees are critical to the earth's ecological system. People are not. The most immediate answer to scarcity of water is human population control and sensible civic planning. Climate, not trees, causes drought. We need greenery to recycle all the carbon dioxide produced by petroleum burning.

Be forewarned. Trimble's research will be used in battles over future deforestation.

— Andrew Morgan, WI

Dear EF!ers,

As an EF!er and avid fisherman, I read with interest the excellent article on restoring the Gila Trout. I note with sorrow the opposition to the restoration program by trout fishermen who do not want fishing areas closed in order to allow the elimination of exotic species and the reintroduction of a native species. Saving endangered species is vastly more important than fishing; if and when these streams are ever reopened to fishing it should be on a strictly regulated basis. No "sportsman" should risk the elimination of any species, nor should he resist giving up a few miles of trout stream to aid wildlife.

— John Edison, Seattle, WA

SFB:

Enclosed are some green frogskins for renewal of my subscription. I commend you on producing a top-notch, informative and even entertaining publication. It has come a long way over the past few years, and continues to improve.

In the future, I'd like to see more development of strategy for supplanting the industrial system. Actions to save specific wild areas are necessary but our gains will be limited under a system which holds material production and consumption in such high esteem. We must continually cast an eye toward identifying the weakest of the crucial elements of that system. The opportunities for fundamental change will come.

— Tom Galazen, Bayfield, WI

Dear Troublemakers,

I managed to endure work full time for 12 months, so I have a few extra bucks and rather than giving one of my spoiled nephews another toy or my dad another tie, I decided to share the wealth with people I've never met, yet whom I feel closer to than some friends I've known all my life. I feel better already, like when I used to go to confession or donate money to feed pagan babies in Africa. Only now I know my money and conscience are in the right place and not feeding some pompous bishop nor manipulating poor people to stay poor (and overpopulated). Keep up the good works.

I'm making this standard request in all my letters to EF! groups: If you have tips on organizing at a local level, I'd appreciate it. I attended the first Midwest Headwaters gathering this year and felt good about it, but now we're spread out over five states and organizing isn't my forte. There are issues which are local and require local effort. There are people in the Twin Cities who are concerned, but when it comes to getting them in their snowmobile suits and Sorels and out into 30 below weather, I'm not sure how to do it.

I'm not writing this part as a resume, but rather to find what kind of people I need to associate with to get things done.

I have these skills: imagination, occasionally can write a complete sentence, trained observer and can recite the Miranda warning from memory (six years as a cop didn't go to waste!), canoeing, hiking. Also, lived on nothing but rice with soy sauce and beer during one lean winter in college.

Whatever you do, don't tell me I need an a) accountant or b) attorney. I don't have the herd instinct, but I realize that to make changes it is sometimes necessary to band together. I hate the word 'organization' and all that it implies. Whatever advice you have, I'll appreciate.

— Chuck Varani, 355 Bates, St. Paul, MN 55106.

Dear SFB,

I'd like to share a few ideas with EF!ers. Some we're doing; some might fit in with others' schemes. Sharing ideas, perhaps even creating a column for monkeywrenching of more subtle varieties than the ones espoused by Ned Ludd, would be a wonderful way to exchange effective tactics.

1. An international day of protest is called for on John Muir's birthday on April 21 by Northern California EF!ers. We'll protest at the home of a regional forester who has stated publicly that he hates John Muir. Boy will he be sorry.

2. FOG stands for our new Forest Observation Group, based on No. California's COG (Citizen Observation Group). We could have a DOG (Desert Observation Group), SMOG (Strip Mining Observation Group) — the possibilities are endless. The idea is to go onto the land, take photos, notes, and document what's going down and then release information where it's best directed (press, government hearings, etc.).

3. We'll launch our newest concept,

continued on page 30

Grand Canyon (cont)

of useless bureaucratic process and antiquated law into art, the art of teaching, the art of speaking out.

By the end of the day — as we filed into the jail for a short visit, our jailers became our teachers, and, by the time the matron took me aside and said, "You've all got our support . . . things have got to change!" and the county jailer thanked us for making their job easy — I was no longer doubtful. As I walked into the sweet free Flagstaff night air into the embraces of friends, I realized I had changed. My heart still carries a furious beat, but I have learned to dance with it, to be still with it.

The dance I cannot ever do, the one to which I must not claim knowledge is Winnie's dance, the weaver's dance, the shepherd's skilled balance, the drunkard's shuffle, the steps of grief and pride and shame and delirium; Judy's dance, that too I have never danced, the one that is made of tiny steps, the one that spirals downward, the one that balances on a greased tight-rope between two contradictory cultures. I can only watch those dances and tell you that while we were cradled in the loving arms of our friends, laughing, drinking something hot and strong, heading home, Winnie stood alone, stepping out at 11 PM for the bar and the wine and the sorry morning. Just before we were taken from the cell to the Magistrate, Judy hoped, in her soft voice, that her nephew had told her sister, that somebody had guessed where she was and no, there was nobody we could call for her. She crushed the sage we had brought in from the road to the mine site and said, "It smells like home."

At this writing, we have heard nothing. We expect to be arraigned, to go forward into each crossroad of the legal process, to carefully plan each step so that the media will be there and the nation will learn that the Forest Dis-service, the Park Service's silent administrators, the BLM and the uranium mining industry are tightening a gangrenous stranglehold on the Grand Canyon and the wild beauty surrounding her. We will teach that lesson until the people get it right. For Winnie. For Judy. For Falcon. For Elk. For Mother Earth herself.

Mary Sojourner is a writer, Arizona Earth First! leader, and will soon be the coordinator of the Earth First! Speakers' Bureau.

A Brief and Biased History of Earth Rape at the Grand Canyon

by Pirate Jenny

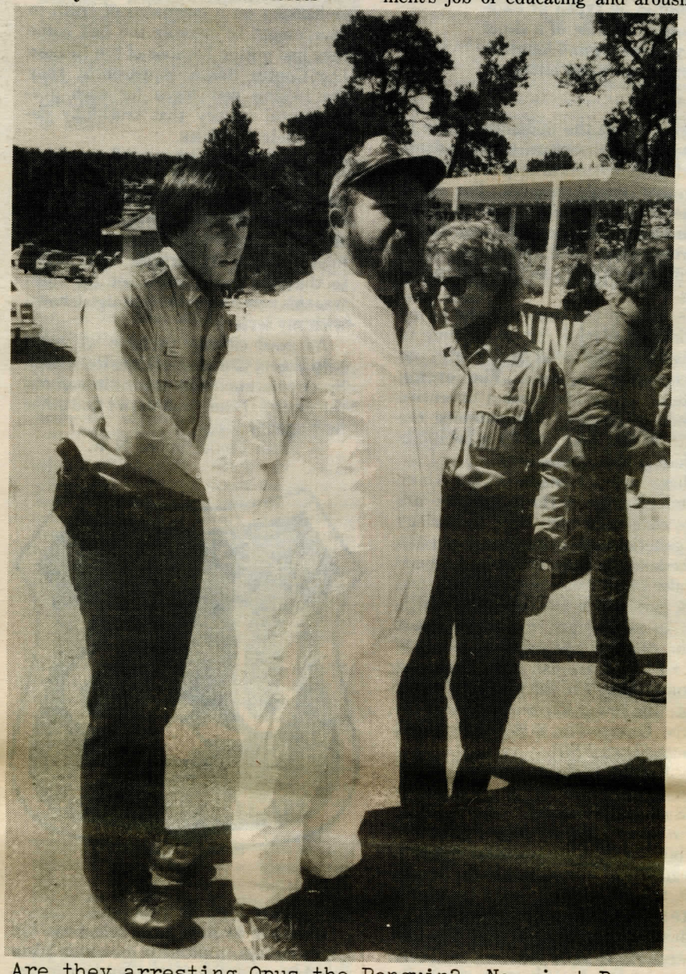
First, there was the Orphan Mine. Then, there were the misguided negotiations with Energy Fuels Nuclear, Inc. (EFN), on the Arizona Strip Wilderness issue. Then there were EFN's North Rim mines — Pigeon, Kanab N., and Hack Canyon 1, 2, 3. Then, in 1984, posters appeared in Flagstaff, warning of a proposed uranium mine, to be sunk 13 miles south of the Grand Canyon, with only an Environmental Assessment to be done. Fiery meetings were held. EFN gave bland assurances. "Hell, we didn't see no wildlife while we were doing the exploratory drilling," grinned an EFN engineer.

Folks got pissed-off and thoroughly hysterical and righteous . . . praise be. Some say monkeywrenching occurred. The South Kaibab head Fred, Leonard Lindquist, ordered an Environmental Impact Statement. Earth First! and Canyon Under Siege did the government's job of educating and arousing the public. Letters were written, appeals made. Lindquist determined, after small effort to communicate with the Havasupai, whose sacred ground was being wounded, that "no serious environmental impact would occur." He also decided that, despite numerous requests from tree-huggers, there was no need for a Regional EIS covering both Rims.

EFN then proposed two mines on State Land, which were immediately opposed by the Havasupai. Pathfinders sunk an exploratory hole 400 feet from GCNP boundary, announced the ore was too poor and the expense too high to mine the hole. Dick Marks, GCNP superintendent, hinted he may have had something to do with that decision; then Pathfinders announced they had made a mistake and declared intention to mine the site. We haven't heard back from Marks. EFN proposed a mine, the Hermit, 22 miles from Fredonia, Arizona, near the North Rim; the BLM determined that only an Environmental Assessment would be necessary, as they had expeditiously decided earlier for the Pinenut mine on the North Rim. All this adds up to one abandoned mine, five operating mines on the North Rim, three proposed mines on the North Rim, three proposed mines on the South Rim, tens of thousands of mining claims on both rims throughout the hundreds of square miles of uranium ore rich breccia pipe formations, and zero Regional EIS.

With uranium prices so low that profit is marginal, we guess that Energy Fools, Pathfinders (wholly owned by French interests), and Rocky Mountain Energy are counting on Reagan's SDI (shit — damn ignorant) plan. To help stop the uranium mining, you can: 1. Attend the Round River Rendezvous, July 6-10, and subsequent protests against Canyon mines. 2. Write Senators DeConcini and McCain, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; Representative Bruce Vento, Subcommittee on National Parks/Public Lands, US House of Representatives, DC 20515. Demand: A) repeal of the 1872 Mining Law, which endangers the Grand Canyon area and other wild public lands; B) a Regional, Inter-agency Environmental Impact Statement on the uranium ore rich lands surrounding the Canyon; C) mineral rights withdrawal from those areas; D) an investigation of the current process that has permitted this land to be imperiled. 3. Send $ to Canyon Under Siege, POB 434, Flagstaff, AZ 86002 . . . we'll put every penny to work for Grand (Mother) Canyon.

Pirate Jenny is a powerful Earth defender of many titles.



Are they arresting Opus the Penguin? No, just Dave Foreman in a less-than-flattering radiation suit. Photo by Dan Dagget.

New Mexico Demonstrates for Grand Canyon

The Coyote Kid

Through the concrete canyons of downtown ABQ to 517 Gold Avenue, Earth First!ers from the upper and middle Rio Grande Valley marched with a "coffin" Grand Canyon. The radiation suited EF!ers brought the issue of uranium mining in the Grand Canyon to the door of those who would sell her soul. That's right, we were at the Forest Service Regional HQ.

With the arrests to follow the next day at the Canyon, those of us in NM wanted to help raise consciousness of uranium mining at the Canyon. Roger and Mike (of Nomadic Action Group) having given us thoughts of environmental mischief, we set out to grab the media by their zoom lenses and make our plea to Canyon lovers.

Using red and black markers, we converted paint suits into radiation suits. With face paint, we transformed ourselves into EFN agents of death. We bore a coffin with Canyon vistas on each side through lunch hour ABQ. Led by the Grim Reaper and followed by a uranium shipment in a wheelbarrow, we were a sight to behold. Our uranium, a gravel and cornmeal mixture, was blown out of our "haul truck" by the spring winds. We laid the coffin at the door of the Headquarters. "Uranium mining is killing the Canyon," we said. Echoing David Brower's call in the 60s, we said that "if you cannot save the Grand Canyon, you cannot save anything."

The eager Energy Fools Nuclear "haul truck" driver, rushing another load of uranium from the Canyon, had an accident. It was a horrible spill. With the code words "ashes to ashes, dust to dust" radiation victims died at the door of the Forest Service offices. Not willing to even let the dead lie, a Freddie cop ordered us not to block the door. This made for great media coverage: the FS won't even let the dead rest in peace. Deputy Regional Forester Thomas Schmeckpecker (his name, no kidding) admonished us to "work within the system."

We hope that when the Freddies went home that night, thoughts of Yellowcake National Park plagued their consciences. Their secret is out of the hat. Now it's time to flood their offices (Forest Service, Southwest Regional Office, 517 Gold Ave, SW, Alb., NM 87102) with post cards and letters: "JUST SAY NO! TO URANIUM MINING IN THE GRAND CANYON."

Great Lakes Inland Waterway Threatens NE Ohio Rivers

by Jerry Welch

Ohio wilderness? To many of you, that may seem a contradiction of terms; but yes, there are some semi-wild areas left in northern Ohio. What remains, however, is seriously threatened by a proposed 104-mile Inland Waterway that would link the Great Lakes with the Ohio River and the Gulf of Mexico via the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers.

Representative James Traficant (D-Youngstown) has taken this project under his wing. In February, in a brash attempt to garner federal support for this idea, Traficant proposed that the US Air Force consider basing MX missiles on barges on this Inland Waterway!

The path of "Traficant's Trench" is from Ashtabula, Ohio, on Lake Erie to the Grand River, a state "Scenic" and "Protected" river. This canal would obliterate some of the wildest stretches of the Grand, creating (yet another) recreational reservoir to be called Grand Lake, catering to the hordes of motor heads from the suburbs. From here, the canal would plow south, joining the Mahoning River, then on to the Beaver and into the Ohio River.

Implications of this proposal include:
*Flooding a 6000-acre wildlife area.
*Destruction of 7500-acre Morgan Swamp, one of the largest remaining wetland areas in Ohio, and home to over 25 rare plant species.
*Inundation of at least one Superfund toxic waste site, thereby spreading the waste over a wide area.
*Stirring up tons of toxic sediment on the polluted Mahoning River when it is widened and dredged.
*Flooding over 70,000 acres of residential, farm, and commercial land in Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties.
*All this is estimated to cost four to five billion dollars.

Send letters of opposition to your US representatives and to Traficant and to Ohio newspapers. An eight million dollar feasibility study of this canal was authorized late last year by the House Public Works and Transportation Committee. It isn't too late to stop this.

Jerry Welch is an Ohio Earth First! contact.

Kalmiopsis (cont)

We are joined by Helen, making us a Bay Area threesome. Driving north, we all breathe easier when suburbia fades from view, as six lanes narrow into two lanes along the Russian River. We stop at twilight in Arcata. EF!ers in Humboldt County are busy on the Maxxam campaign. The next day, Mike and Mokai lead a non-violent prep. Nearly 30 folks circle up for learning, consensus role-playing, and discussing legal tactics.

On Sunday, we drive north out of the Coast Redwoods and into the Siskiyous, heading for the Klamath Knot, birthplace of coniferous forests. We reach the Rogue River, then continue into the National Forest, toward the Hobson Horn timber sale. At a turnout, we find vehicles with EF! stickers, telling us that we have arrived.

We are greeted by Mike Jakubal and Val Wade, veteran tree-sitters from the Millennium Grove campaigns. Most of the other folks are locals, like Julie, Bobcat, and Chant. We walk through patches of snow, regroup under a tarp and build a fire. Then we begin our meeting.

After lengthy discussion, we finally reach a consensus for an action. Since our overall strategy is to generate publicity and keep North Kalmiopsis in the news, we don't want to get everybody arrested at once and then fade out of the media. A series of direct actions with a few people arrested each time could provide prolonged pressure on the Forest Service and on-going education of the public. Helen, Mike and I are willing to get arrested immediately. We will proceed with an action on Tuesday, while others provide support.

We do reconnaissance and press work on Monday. Early Tuesday, we head toward Hobson Horn with Jakubal and a local TV crew. Steve will meet the rest of the media down at Indian Mary Campground. We'll determine a location for our blockade, then send Jakubal out to bring Steve and the media to the right spot.

We go past what looks like a cop in a 4X4. He follows us toward the logging site. We soon find a welcoming committee of county sheriff's deputies and Freddies standing with their vehicles blocking the road. Behind them is more new road lined with stacks of logs waiting to be taken away when the road is finished. We hear the sounds of diesel engines.

Mike approaches the Freddies and asks whether the road is closed to public access beyond this point. They say no. Helen and I join him and walk by them with our Earth First! banner, as the cameraman runs ahead to film. Freddies follow close behind us until they realize that they've unwittingly joined our parade and drop back out of the camera's focus.

We reach a fork 100 yards from the end of the road. The bulldozer is working on the lower spur, so we continue on the upper spur until we find a spot where we can view the activities below and remain out of the way. The cameraman will go below to film the logging and roadbuilding. We'll wait for the media to arrive, then carry a banner down and sit in front of the bulldozer.

Our supporters arrive with more signs. Steve arrives with media. We unfurl Jakubal's "Save Our Old Growth" banner. We march downhill with the banner, running the gauntlet of cameras, smiling supporters and stone-faced Freddies, until we are in front of the big Cat. The driver stops, we put our banner upon the pile of dirt against his blade, and we sit down and link arms. The chief Freddie approaches us with the deputies and speaks into his tape player. "This is Tuesday, April 7, 1987 at the Hobson Horn timber sale unit . . ." He wants to record everything to impress his superiors with his handling of the situation.

He asks us to leave. Mike says, "Our conscience will not allow us to leave this spot." The Freddie gives us one minute to reconsider. After our minute, the Freddie asks the deputies to arrest us. We cooperate, and each receives a genuine pair of plastic handcuffs. As we are escorted toward the vehicles, Roselle trips, lands face in the dirt, and creates the desired appearance of two cops holding him down to make him "eat dirt" — great publicity photo for the deputies! Actually they are nice as cops go, though we still think they should be arresting the Freddies instead of us.

We are driven to the Grants Pass jail, which is already overcrowded and unable to accept arrestees. We are booked and fed (yecch, maybe fasting ain't a bad idea). They OR us, correctly assuming that we will appear for our arraignment the next day because we want the publicity of a trial.

We are featured on three local TV news programs, two local newspaper front pages, and (biggest press victory) on page 7 of the *Oregonian* next to the eyeglass ads. The *Oregonian* is the only paper sold everywhere in the state and even such a token piece will spread the word to Earth First!ers across Oregon that things are rolling in the North Kalmiopsis and it's time to join the fight!

David Barron is an EF! Bay Area activist and a canvasser for Citizens for a Better Environment.

by Chant Thomas

The recent North Kalmiopsis direct action (see article by David Barron) was one of a series of events. Two weeks before, Earth First! Siskiyou returned to the front lawn of the Medford BLM to continue demonstrating against the FIVE major timber sales planned in 1987 that would cut deep into the Wild Rogue River canyon, just upstream of the designated Wild Rogue Wilderness. BLM planners propose clearcuts less than two miles from the riverbank.

This BLM demo was especially sweet because the Wild Rogue sale we protested was withdrawn by BLM at the last minute as a result of a formal protest letter filed by Headwaters, a regional mainline environmental group. Headwaters' attorney, Chuck Levin, wrote such an incisive legal document that BLM lawyers told Medford to back up and regroup.

The five timber sales total 819 acres, 95% of it destined to suffer the BLM's cruel clearcut/slash/burn regime. This BLM area is just over the ridge from the Forest Service devastation at Hobson Horn in the North Kalmiopsis.

On April Fools Day, we demonstrated at Siskiyou National Forest Headquarters in Grants Pass. EF! Siskiyou performed a skit featuring Smokey the Bear (in jail with the long overdue Forest Plan) being held hostage by the bureaucrats. About 45 people were present, and press releases were distributed to the media, who provided extensive coverage on the overcutting issue.

A few days after the action on Hobson Horn, EF! Siskiyou staged a weekend of events in Ashland. Lone Wolf Circles and Dakota Sid gave a concert to launch their Western states tour. We held a peaceful direct action workshop and a tree climbing workshop to train people for North Kalmiopsis actions this summer. Saturday night, we danced to the music of Earthsong (featuring David and Windsong from the 83 Round River Rendezvous), and listened, spellbound, to Wolf and Sid.

EF! at Siskiyou NF HQ. Photo by Moondog.

Lone Wolf Circles howls after Kurt Newman used a kryptonite lock to secure his neck & right leg to gate at April 21 Kalmiopsis action. Photo by Moondog.

Since this article was written, another action occurred, on John Muir's birthday, April 21. More actions and events are imminent.

As the campaign to save the North Kalmiopsis old growth warms up with the spring sunshine, and the roar of chainsaws shatters the peace of winter in the mountains, EF! activists are planning a major regional gathering for the second weekend in June.

By that time, when the heat now being generated by continuing demos and arrests begins to level off just below boiling point, an influx of energy will be needed. Everyone working for the defense of Pacific Rim Primeval Forests (from Meares Island to the Sinkyone) is invited to the centrally located North Kalmiopsis to share songs and stories, information and inspiration. The gathering site is planned for Oak Flat along the lower Illinois River a few miles up from its confluence with the Rogue.

On Saturday, June 13, there will be a timed run (tree-athalon) along the Rogue and Illinois Rivers. Tours will visit encroaching clearcuts, and also wild places up Indigo, Silver, and Lawson creeks. A wilderness camp will be established four miles from the Oak Flat trailhead at Indian Flat on Indigo Creek below the South Indigo timber sale, to provide a summer-long focal point for getting to know the North Kalmiopsis.

Affinity groups and individuals from all over the West are encouraged to come and participate in the direct action scheduled to follow the gathering on June 15, at one or more of the three active timber sales. Bigfoot and other EF! luminaries are rumored to be planning appearances, so if you hear howls loud enough to snap chainsaws, don't be alarmed. For more info, write: Box 212, Williams Valley, OR 97544, or call Chant at 503-899-1696.

Chant Thomas is an EF! leader in the Kalmiopsis campaign, and a lama outfitter. Whether his lamas will deign to participate in CD remains uncertain.

Smog Rolls Over the White Mountain NF

by Granite Dome

The owners of the Cog Railway, a steam-powered train which carries tourists to the top of New Hampshire's highest peak, Mt. Washington, have announced their plan to expand operations. They intend to begin carrying skiers to the top of Mt. Washington so the sports can descend through the bowl of Tuckerman's Ravine and on to the bottom at Pinkham Notch. Skiing has traditionally been allowed in Tuckerman's Ravine, within White Mountain National Forest, but no facilities have ever been provided. Skiers dedicated enough to try the steep wall have hiked to the summit from the Appalachian Mountain Club lodge at Pinkham Notch, a trail two miles long.

The Cog Railway ("Smog Railway" is another name, earned by the coal-fired engine used), which operates with a state permit, is on the part of Mt. Washington which is a state park. The owners applied for a permit from the Forest Service to cover "guide work" such as providing advice to skiers as they cross onto Forest Service (FS) land and begin their descent. They were denied the permit, but Joe Bedura of the Cog says the railway will begin carrying skiers in April regardless of how the FS rules on the permit. An increase of skiers to the area might inspire still more skiing in wild areas by adventurous yahoos who aren't satisfied with the three major ski operations in White Mountain National Forest.

Supervisor Mike Hathaway's denial of the guide permit was expected. Virtually everyone involved opposed the idea — from Governor Sununu (usually pro-development) to the NH Congress. The Smog owners plan to try again next year with their "ski Mt. Washington" plan. It will be difficult to stop them, unless through legislation. The Smog owns a right-of-way on Mt. Washington, and the state land on top is already used by helicopter (!) lifted skiers.

The NH ski industry depends largely on skiers from out-of-state, particularly from Massachusetts. This winter's heavy snowfall has meant highways clogged every weekend with skiers headed north. The last few years have seen a tremendous influx of new residents and unprecedented growth in the state. Many residents are alarmed to see the rural character of New Hampshire being replaced by an acultural lifestyle of condoized banality. The Cog proposal may be an issue over which public sentiment against further encroachment on undeveloped land is prominently displayed.

If Cog Railway proceeds with its plan without a permit, a confrontation will be likely. Ned Perrien of the Forest Service said it might reach a point where the FS would seek an injunction against use of Tuckerman's Ravine by rail-riding skiers. It's difficult to predict, he added, because the proposal has not yet been thoroughly examined.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: NH residents should urge their local representatives to introduce legislation to ban ALL mechanized transport on Mt. Washington while state facilities are closed — thus barring mechanized transport during ski season and allowing it only from May 23 until weather closes the road, or October 15, whichever comes first. (Of course, both the Smog and the tourist road to the top should be closed, but the road is a big revenue source for the state, and its closure is not even being considered.) Out-of-staters (particularly Massachusetts tourists) should write to Governor Sununu at the State House, Concord, NH 03301 and tell him how obscene it would be to turn New England's highest mountain into a cheap side-show (already the fate of NH's beautiful Lakes region). Also, indicate to legislators and Sununu that Loon Mountain, Wildcat, and Waterville Valley already have adequate ski facilities in White Mountain National Forest and that back country skiing should not be encouraged.

California to Slaughter Mountain Lions Earth First! Vows Resistance

by Karen DeBraal

Jeff Hoffman and Michelle Miller at Redding hearing. Photo by David Cross.

"Lion hunting is a game the lions don't want to play," testified a 10-year-old Berkeley student at the final California Fish & Game hearing concerning the trophy hunting of California Cougars. A busload of 60 kids, over 200 other people, hours of testimony, tens of thousands of signatures on petitions and letters — all opposing the lion hunt — did little to sway the blood-stained mindset of the California Commission of Fish & Game. They announced their decision on April 10 at the close of the final hearing.

"We will compromise," they said; "190 lions are up for harvest instead of 210." Earth First!ers got up, disgusted, and went outside to form a circle. Chants and howls echoed throughout Sacramento as EF! lifted its voice for the Cougar. The battle has just begun.

On May 4, at the Fish & Game headquarters in Sacramento, a peaceful demonstration and press conference will set the ball rolling for more actions, possibly including direct action.

The Mountain Lion Coalition is considering lawsuits; and a bill, AS 467, by Assemblyman Tom Bates, would reinstate the moratorium on lion murder. To obtain information and to get involved in actions, call Connie Ross at 415-849-4232, or contact Bay Area EF! Also, write Governor Deukmejian, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814. Tell him to support AS 467, and tell him what you think about the F&G compromise.

Bay Area EF! Update

by Karen Pickett

Mountain Lions

Earth First!ers showed a strong presence at hearings before California Fish & Game at which the (misguided) decision-makers considered a season for trophy hunting of Mountain Lions after 15 years of protection in California for the big cat. (See articles, last issue and this issue.) EF!ers from far and wide testified in Long Beach in February, in Redding in March, and in Sacramento in April. EF! was better represented than any other environmental group. However, at the final hearing, after six hours of testimony overwhelmingly opposed to a hunt, the Commissioners sided with the hunters and ranchers and approved the hunt. After a prolonged disruption of the hearing chambers, EF! continued its protest outside. We held a meeting in front of the chambers of the Department of Farce and Greed after the media left. Plans include more protests in Sacramento and our lottery campaign (see sidebar). For info on the next protest, call Jeff at 415-549-9534 or Connie at 415-849-4232. For our Mountain Lion fact sheet, write Bay Area EF!

San Bruno Mountain

On March 15, Bay Area Earth First!ers held a demonstration at the site of a planned condominium development on San Bruno Mountain, the last vestige of native Franciscan environment (which the entire San Francisco peninsula once was). The mountain is home to several Endangered Species of plants and animals, most found nowhere else in the world. The mountain is under assault on several fronts. The destruction of Endangered Species habitat is being allowed under a criminal amendment to the Endangered Species Act, misnamed the "Habitat Conservation Plan," for which San Bruno Mountain is the test case for the nation. Those defending the mountain have been present every weekend lately and have turned away many potential condo buyers, as well as sponsoring hikes on the mountain, which now is exploding with wildflowers. More actions are planned. Info: 415-752-4464. You can take immediate action to help San Bruno by writing letters to Congress in support of reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act *but with repeal of the (misnamed) Habitat Conservation Plan.* Send letters to your congresspersons and to George Mitchell (chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Environmental Protection), US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; and to Gerry Studds (chair of the House Subcommittee on Wildlife Conservation), US House of Representatives, DC 20515.

Genetic Engineering Madness

On April 4, Earth First!ers journeyed to the farming community of Brentwood, on the outskirts of the urban sprawl of the Bay Area, to hold a press conference. We were protesting the crazed plan of mad scientists to spray a strawberry patch with "Frostban," a genetically altered bacterium designed to lower the freezing temperature of the crop (and wreak who knows what other havoc; see article on genetic engineering in last issue). This experiment, planned for April 18, would be the first intentional release of a genetically altered organism into the open environment. A suit with at least one EF!er as a plaintiff is planned. Meanwhile, the crazy people in the white coats have turned the little strawberry patch into a fortress, replete with chainlink fence and armed security guard. Info: Andy, 415-527-5796.

If you want to keep in close touch with issues on which Bay Area EF!ers are working, ask us to put you on our local mailing list for regular notices. Joining our list is free, but money for postage, printing, etc. is needed. (We mail first class to over 500 people.) We also have fact sheets on the above issues. Write:
Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516.

Please specify if you want to come to meetings. Checks can be made out to Earth First!

Photo by Karen Pickett.

MOUNTAIN LION LOTTERY

EF!ERS WILL SEEK LION'S SHARE OF PERMITS

California Earth First!ers and other lion defenders have agreed to launch a major effort to obtain the permits to hunt Mountain Lions. Of course, the defenders will obtain the tags only to prevent hunters from gaining them. The goal is to get multitudes of EF!ers to enter the lottery for permits. What this would involve for the individual EF!er is simple: Purchasing a California hunter's license costs $20; a lottery ticket costs $5; a lion tag — for those 190 people who win the right to slay a lion — costs $75. Additionally, to enter the lottery, one must take a short hunter safety course (unless one has done so previously). If you are willing to enter the lottery, or to sponsor another EF!er to do so, write Bay Area EF! immediately! The importance of this effort cannot be overemphasized. Not only do we have the chance to block hunters from obtaining permits to kill lions, we also have the chance to generate great publicity for the cause through the lottery effort. Indeed, already Karen Pickett has been swamped by calls from media regarding this effort. During a TV appearance in mid-April, Karen explained that the lion defenders' involvement in the lottery WILL succeed because there are many more of us than there are of the hunters.

EF!LA Update

by Peter Bralver

For eight consecutive Sundays as of April 12, Earth First!ers Denise and David Conway-Mucha have organized 24-hour fasts and vigils in support of scientist and anti-nuclear activist Dr. Charles Hyder. As of April 12, Dr. Hyder has been fasting 203 days, taking only warm water. As often as he is able, he sits in front of the White House.

The name and fist of Earth First! have marked the tents and banners of a small EF! camp on the lawn of the Los Angeles Federal Building where a protest against nuclear destruction of life and wilderness is being held to honor Dr. Hyder. Often the protesters demonstrate in front of massive daytime traffic, giving great exposure to these issues. TV, radio and newspaper coverage of the activists was heavy at the outset of these vigils and protests.

On April 2, Sea Shepherd Conservation Society with its EF!LA contingent held a demonstration in front of the Canadian Consulate to protest the renewed Harp Seal kill. Media coverage was heavy. Denise's and David's companion Timber Wolf/Husky expressed his outrage by howling and throwing up in front of the embassy offices.

On March 28, a few EF!ers held a banner in front of the French Consulate in Beverly Hills in support of the action on the same day at the Grand Canyon by Arizona EF!ers in opposition to uranium mining near the Canyon. In the company of signs, the banner read "Keep Our Canyon Grand — Ban Uranium Mining — Don't Destroy America's Country." We picketed the French Consulate to protest the French mining company, Pathfinder, which has many claims near the Canyon. (I hope by the time of the 87 RRR when we gather at the Canyon, it is still more than just a memory in a plastic bubble tourist snow toy which, when shaken, commemorates the snowfall of a nuclear winter!)

On March 25, EF!LA's collaboration with Darryl Cherney and Greg King from the tall trees culminated in an underreported demonstration in front of the Santa Monica Sheraton Hotel against PL MAXXAM's plans to cut much of the remaining old growth Coast Redwoods. Two of our activists infiltrated the meeting and spoke in defense of these majestic beings.

On March 9, the Chumash and other Native American Peoples, David Phillips of Earth Island Institute, AESA, and Earth First! held yet another demonstration against the Condor Captive Breeding Program, this time at the Condor Research Center, in Ventura. Carrying banners, we occupied the captors' offices as AESA presented demands including scheduled release of the birds, protection of released birds and their habitat, and respect for the Chumash Native Tribal Religion, related intimately to the Condor. We have been too patient, and now must make more visible efforts to free the Condor!

Since Ventura several of us have seen what was the *last* California Condor free in the wild. After it dipped out of sight into a steep canyon with caves in which to roost, it was clear what inexpressible rights we are fighting for. May such visions, which are what the world is ultimately made of, empower us to energize our promises and threats. Free the Condors! Free the land!

The Salmon Scam Case

by Patrick Pilcher

Once again, an apparent conflict between natural resources and the rights of Native Peoples has been decided against both the resource and the Natives.

David Sohappy, his son, and a nephew were caught in a "sting" operation for allegedly selling salmon to undercover federal agents. The Sohappys were sentenced to five years in federal prison. The case is currently under appeal.

Sohappy is an elder in the Wanapum band of the mid Columbia River Indians. His father, Smohalla, started the Seven Drums religion that many of the Columbia tribes follow today. Smohalla suggested that his band relocate to what is now the Hanford Nuclear Reservation after receiving a vision that they should relocate to a spot that the whites did not want. Until World War II they lived in peace, but then Hanford was declared vital to the war effort and the tribe was relocated to an area along the Columbia in the Yakima Indian Reservation. Another relocation followed in 1957 when the Dalles dam flooded their fishing areas. Although this resettlement was supposed to be the last for the tribe, the government has since tried many times to resettle them again but has met much resistance.

Because of his activism on behalf of treaty rights, Sohappy has long been a thorn in the side of the federal government. By setting up the sting they hoped to pluck this thorn. Recently several federal agencies have been reporting a loss of salmon in the annual mig-

continued on page 7

Battle for the Last Redwoods

by Greg King
and North Coast CA EF!

Never has deforestation in the Pacific Northwest been so dire as today. Louisiana Pacific continues to butcher 35,000 acres yearly in Mendocino and Humboldt counties. Georgia Pacific, Simpson Timber, Barnum Timber and other producers are carving swaths into steep, fragile terrain; areas are now being logged for the second or third time this century.

Timber companies continue to cut the world's last unprotected old growth redwood stands and other old growth forests. Pacific Lumber Company (PALCO) is in the process of liquidating over one-fourth of the world's remaining old growth redwood. The Bureau of Land Management wants to sell Gillam Butte, 2700 acres of virgin Douglas Fir five miles southwest of Humboldt Redwoods State Park. Further south, PG & E may soon log 700 old growth acres on Trout Creek near the Eel River. Eel River Sawmills recently bought the extensive Sanctuary Forest in southern Humboldt County. Nearby, Barnum Timber is also taking final old growth stands.

With little privately held old growth remaining, timber companies are looting the national treasury by means of subsidized logging operations in the National Forests. The Six Rivers, Mendocino, Shasta-Trinity, Rogue River, Klamath and other National Forests in the Klamath-Siskiyou Bioregion are under attack.

The last unprotected stands of old growth redwood are falling fast with the MAXXAM takeover of Pacific Lumber Company in Humboldt County, northwest California. Attempting to meet

All Species Grove and its new road which may soon bisect the grove. Photo by Greg King.

debt payments of $40,000 per year in 1986-88, MAXXAM Corporation changed PALCO's selective logging policy to one of clearcutting, and more than doubled the acreage to be cut.

Even during winter, six PALCO logging crews worked full-time. On March 17, following one the season's heaviest rains, crews used tractors, which caused large expanses of mud to slide down hills into streams. Such massive degradations have gone unchecked by the California Department of Forestry (CDF). PALCO's seed tree/removal cut is a de facto clearcut, taking old growth trees from tracts selectively logged within the past few years. PALCO is clearcutting its untouched stands. Sources close to PALCO say that large portions of the company's virgin redwood and Doug Fir stands may be sold to other North Coast timber giants — such as Louisiana Pacific, Simpson Timber, and Georgia Pacific — inciting the elimination of these forests within a few years.

As of last year, PALCO owned 40,000 to 50,000 acres of old growth, equivalent to 70% of that standing in California parks. One of the largest islands of old growth identified by forest defenders, "Headwater Forest" on Salmon Creek, contains 2800 acres of unroaded habitat.

The California Department of Forestry routinely violates the California Forest Practice Act and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with rubber-stamp approval of timber harvest plans (THPs) that do not meet the environmental and sociological mandates of these statutes. Blatant collusion between business and state takes many forms, the most prevalent being CDF's monstrous paper trails choked with lies, designed to smother legal action from critics of forest destruction. Clear examples of this collusion are found in CDF's handling of PALCO's liquidation of old growth redwoods.

Nevertheless, MAXXAM'S adversaries scored victories in March, when PALCO withdrew a 140-acre clearcut timber harvest plan that was to take the last virgin timber near Elk Head Springs; and when the company eliminated from a Booth's Run Creek THP roads that would have bisected virgin redwood groves. Under pressure from environmental groups and individuals, PALCO withdrew the 140-acre clearcut THP, and then resubmitted the plan, less half the acreage and two miles of road. Approval of the original plan would have violated the Forest Practice Act and CEQA, likely prompting a lawsuit. The Booth's Run Creek THP is a currently operating clearcut of virgin redwoods on the edge of a pristine 800-acre stand. Originally, that THP was to include a road system cutting through the heart of this rainforest. The roads constituted a project separate from the THP and therefore violated CEQA since they were not discussed anywhere in the plan except on the map. Letters to CDF illustrating the illegalities of this plan caused PALCO to remove the roads. However, in a recent editorial, Earth First!er Mokai warned that THP withdrawals do not demonstrate the success of democratic input, but rather CDF's actions as a legal advisor to PALCO, helping them to design THPs to avoid litigation.

Readers wishing to help stop the destruction of California's redwoods should contact North Coast California Earth First!, POB 368, Bayside, CA 95524.

Mt. Graham Defends Herself

by Enojado P. Desierto

In the battle over Mt. Graham, many of us have become convinced that the procession of events is being orchestrated by the Mountain itself. The many "coincidences" and unexpected boons fit too neatly together to be accidents. The Mountain has brought together strangers from diverse backgrounds. The diverse coalition of scope opponents (from the Tucson Rod and Gun Club to the Animal Rights Defense Council) appears as an anomaly only to those who believe these people have come together of their own free wills. More likely, it was the spirit of the scarred remains of High Peak and the still sacred Hawk Peak which reached out to its allies and organized this network of defenders.

With guarded optimism, we now feel that the Power of this sacred place may prevail over the forces of destruction on the latter's own turf: in the bureaucratic arena of an anthropocentric society (although only one side of me is speaking here . . . the Pessimist is gagged). Here is a summary of recent events:

The Forest Service's Final Environmental Impact Statement, outlining their "proposed action," is scheduled for release this summer. Indications are that the Freddies will stick with their pseudo-compromise which recommends partial development — five telescopes instead of the 13 which the University of Arizona asked for. They are too afraid of the astronomers and the politicians to say NO DEVELOPMENT. This is a prime example of what is wrong with the agency: even in the most banal sense (leaving deep ecology aside) the Forest Service has lost perspective, forgotten what it is supposed to be managing. When they allow concrete buildings to replace wildlife, you know they have gone astray.

The Steward Observatory at the University of Arizona has a new proposal: ten telescopes on two peaks and along the existing primitive roadway. They say they will avoid all Red Squirrel middens (food caches) and minimize their project's "footprints." Spending millions of taxpayer dollars hiring PR professionals and "biostitutes," the U of A has over-reached all bounds of academic integrity and become a whore to the dollar. In pushing this project, they have misrepresented facts, slandered opponents, and lied. The greatest asset we have had in opposing this abomination has been the arrogance of the astronomers, who have repeatedly cut their own throats.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department and the US Fish and Wildlife Service are strongly recommending no development. Even Forest Service biologists are generally opposed to the project, but the official party line is "compromise." The Coronado Forest Supervisor has no balls (probably due to straddling the fence for so long).

The Steward Observatory astronomers made so many faux pas that they began giving the University bad press. So the greater plutocracy replaced them with a team of hired guns: a PR man from the Smithsonian Institution, an ex-aide to Representative Udall, the University's legislative liaison, and smiling faces from their Public Information office. These people have been working around the clock against volunteers working on the issue in their spare time.

Mt. Graham has gained national attention recently. An article in the March issue of *Natural History* praised the mountain's unique ecology and lamented the threat of the observatory. Journalist Carol Ann Bassett of Tucson wrote an expose of the controversy which has been published in four major newspapers and will soon appear in *High Country News*. The *Chronicle of Higher Education*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and Monitor Radio all covered the battle; and NBC News sent a crew in April to do one of their "Special Segments" on the evening news.

Our esteemed new governor Ev Mecham (the racist, Mormon, anti-environmental, car dealer politician) made national headlines for giving a seat on the Game and Fish Commission to someone who admittedly didn't know diddly-squat about conservation. His qualification was that he agreed to buck the other commissioners' opposition to telescopes on Mt. Graham. This guy was not Mecham's first choice; other qualified persons contacted were denied the job because they refused to support telescopes. One of them blew the whistle on this scam.

As opposition grows, the arguments of the proponents are falling apart. Mauna Kea in Hawaii was chosen over Mt. Graham as the site for the "world's largest telescope" — which Steward Observatory had been using to gain support for scopes on Mt. Graham. Thanks in part to the efforts of Texas Earth First!, the University of Texas has withdrawn their proposal to site a telescope on Mt. Graham. Other co-proponents with the U of A are getting nervous too. A study of the astronomical "seeing" quality of Mt. Graham contradicts the praises of it by the U of A. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is poised to designate the entire proposed astrophysical area as "critical habitat" for the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel (a proposed Endangered sub-species of its more northern relative). The Arizona Game and Fish Department is promoting Research Natural Area designation for the top of the mountain, and has tentative support from the Southwest Regional office of the Forest Service. Environmentalists support all this and are working for road closures and maximum Wilderness designation. Earth First! holds colorful protests and repeatedly announces its intention to organize physical blockades if the project is approved. This is a real threat as well as effective psychological agitation. The established powers are growing paranoid. (A theft of astronomical testing equipment was blamed on EF!ers until Safford amateur crooks were apprehended with the goods. A hunter's stray bullet started rumors of EF! assassins. EF! parties on the mountain are patrolled by police.)

The University's obsession with money and prestige has blinded them to other values. The center of power is the Mountain itself. We feed its power by protecting its integrity. We can also add to its strength simply by visualizing a free and natural Mt. Graham and believing in victory. Intensity of belief and commitment has a tangible effect on the world. It flies into the dreams and daily lives of the people working for destruction, and challenges their selfish beliefs and weakens their resolve. The battle is being won at this level. That is why the astronomers cannot understand why they are having trouble getting the project approved. *Let's bury it for good this year. You can help do so with a timely letter. The Fish and Wildlife Service will almost certainly list the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel as Endangered, but listing of the squirrel's habitat as Critical is less certain. Urge FWS to designate of all of the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel's habitat as Critical. Write: Mike Spear, Regional Director, USFWS, POB 1306, Alb., NM 87103.*

Earth First! is planning a third annual party on Mt. Graham for Memorial Day weekend. Join us to celebrate one more year of freedom. Join us to make that freedom permanent. We will camp at Treasure Park, May 22-24. To reach Treasure Park, take State Hwy 366 up Mt Graham for about 22.5 miles (366 starts 7 miles south of Safford on US 666). Turn left at Treasure Park turnoff about one mile after FS507 (High Peak Rd) branches to the right. For more information, call Kris at 795-5586.

Enojado P. Desierto is an erudite scholar of environmental history and indefatigable Mt. Graham defender.

SALMON (Cont)

ration up the river. Of the 400,000 salmon that migrate annually, 40,000 were unaccounted for and, naturally, the Indian fishers were thought responsible. Never mind the real causes: poor logging practices, over 22 dams on the Columbia River — many without fish ladders — and chemical pollution from the many industries along the river. Again the victims were blamed for the loss. The Indians and salmon have always been the losers in the power struggle to "develop" the Columbia River Basin.

The Indians whose very existence has always been entwined with the salmon now face the threat of criminal prosecution for fishing within their treaty rights. The salmon have no one to speak for them, save a few Earth First!ers. I believe the spirit of the Columbia will eventually destroy the dams and until that day I will chip away at the armor of technology. I can provide information to anyone who wishes to help in the Sohappy defense.

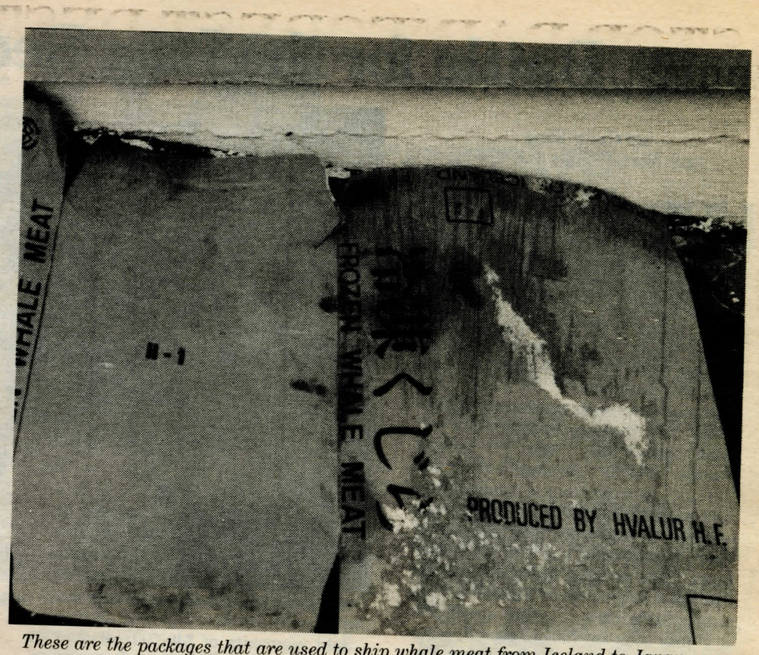
Patrick Pilcher, a Washington tree hugger, can be contacted at 4715 1/2 36th SW, Seattle, WA 98126.

Japanese Pirate Whaling

by Rod Coronado

The Japanese government has announced intentions to kill 875 whales for "scientific research." At the close of Japan's Antarctic whaling season on March 31, after harpooning their 1941 Minke Whales and thus filling their quota, a fishery agency official submitted the "request" to the International Whaling Commission. In a deal struck with the Reagan Administration, Japan has promised to halt commercial whaling by 1988. In applying for approval of research whaling, Japan is exploiting the loophole used by Iceland to disguise pirate whaling. The Japanese Whaling Association's "comprehensive assessment of whale stocks" is to be reviewed in 1990, and a decision made on whether to continue commercial whaling. "The carcasses of the samples will be consumed in Japan after the research" said Kazuo Shimo, a fisheries official. Even though there may be no immediate profit from scientific whaling, the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society believes it will keep whaling fleets operational so that they can resume commercial whaling when the IWC moratorium is reassessed in 1990. Meanwhile, Japan's other strategy for continuing illegal whaling will be to request that the IWC reclassify its shore-based whaling operations from commercial to aboriginal, the same ploy being tried by the Norwegian whaling industry.

We must boycott all Japanese products. Japan has violated international agreements: first, a moratorium on Sperm Whale killing that began three years ago; and second, the moratorium on all commercial whaling that began in 1986. The Reagan administration has sold out the whales to Japan and in doing so is violating US laws [Packwood-Magnusson amendments] that require economic sanctions by the US against any nation that violates IWC mandates. "Any government that chooses to ignore the commercial whaling moratorium should be prepared to accept the consequences . . . " — Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldridge, 7-24-84. "I want to . . . affirm the United States Government's continuing commitment to whale protection." — President Reagan in a letter to the IWC meeting in 1981. Please write: Secretary of Commerce, Malcolm Baldridge, US Dept. of Commerce, Wash., DC 20230. Ask him to keep his word and protect the whales. The Sea Shepherd Society will continue to monitor the whale situation despite threats from the governments of Japan, Norway, and Iceland.



These are the packages that are used to ship whale meat from Iceland to Japan.

Seal Slaughter Renewed

by Rod Coronado

In the last week of March, crews from two ships, the *Chester* and the *Terra Nova*, began killing Harp Seal pups, and a third vessel is expected soon, in a resumption of what was once the largest slaughter of wildlife in the world. "The offshore fleet has a historic and legal right to participate in the hunt," Canadian Federal Fisheries Minister Tom Siddon said, in a surprise announcement one week prior to the start of the slaughter.

After 20 years of intense opposition, the Canadian sealing industry collapsed after enactment of a European ban on imports of Harp Seal pup pelts, and a boycott of Canadian fish in England and the US. While there has been no commercial killing in the past four years, seals are still considered pests, with the jaw of a Grey Seal fetching a $25 bounty. Harp Seal hunting has remained legal, but with only a few inshore fishermen carrying on the "tradition." Since 1983, the Canadian government has been searching for a new market for seal pelts, and has apparently found one in the Far East where the male genitals from seal pups will be sold as aphrodisiacs, while the pelts will be diverted into Europe through Scandanavia. The Fisheries Department has set a commercial quota of 57,000 pups for the three ships. Ironically, the Canadian Sealers Association is lobbying Ottawa to stop the commercial slaughter — not due to sympathy for seals, but because they fear the same economic repercussions caused by previous international anti-sealing sentiment. The Association is comprimised of land-based hunters who kill from small wooden boats.

The Department of Fisheries intentionally delayed their announcement of a hunt renewal to prevent time for organization of pro-seal intervention. The Canadian government stated that only older, adult seals would be killed, but in reality, four to six week old pups that have moulted their white fur will be the targets and will be shot. The commercial slaughter is being held in a region known as the "Front," consisting of the ice floes off the southern coast of Labrador which have long served as a seal nursery where thousands of Harp Seals congregate in spring to give birth.

The Karlsen Shipping Company of Halifax, Nova Scotia announced that they would resume their "traditional practice of providing employment to sealers and workers in their processing plant this season by sending one ship to the ice to take older seals." The other two vessels are operated by the Puddister Trading Company of St. Johns, Newfoundland, a rival concern. The Fisheries Minister, in resuming this slaughter, is maintaining his traditional commitment to eradicating Harp Seals from the North Atlantic, rather than blaming the exploitative fishing industry for the depletion of fish. The North Atlantic, before the time of large-scale commercial fishing, was one of the world's most fertile portions of ocean. Studies show that Harp Seals fast during their southern migration from Greenland and do not then feed on "commercially valuable" fish "stocks."

Through ludicrous regulations called the "Seal Protection Act," the Canadian government has made it virtually illegal to do anything to a Harp Seal except kill it. Although incidents of seals being skinned alive and the exceeding of quotas are common, never has a sealer been prosecuted under the act. Contrarily, activists attempting to document or interfere with the killing have received heavy fines and jail sentences. In 1979, the *Sea Shepherd* was the first ship to arrive in the pack ice to save seals. in that same year we were the first group to "paint" the seal pups with an indelible dye to make their fur worthless to sealers. Over 1000 seals were directly saved this way. In 1981, deprived of a ship, Captain Paul Watson and pilot Al Johnson returned to the ice via kayak to paint more pups.

The players in the renewed deadly game, Karlsen and Puddister, are old enemies of Harp Seals. The Chester, owned by Karlsen, was the target of the last confrontation on the ice with the Sea Shepherd in 1983, when Sea Shepherd obtained evidence — despite an attempted cover-up — proving that seal pups were being clubbed. After successfully blockading St. John's Harbor to prevent ships from reaching the Front, the Sea Shepherd eluded federal authorities and reached the Gulf of St. Lawrence as the seal killers were up to their boots in bloody carcasses. The Sea Shepherd confronted the Chester and the *Technoventure*, and threatened to ram through the ice after the sealers. The Technoventure decided not to call our bluff, and hurriedly returned to Halifax. The Chester called its men back aboard as the Sea Shepherd defiantly patrolled the seal nurseries. Then, on March 26, the Sea Shepherd was attacked by a team from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Department of Fisheries, and Canadian armed forces. The crew were jailed, the Sea Shepherd confiscated and held for two years, for violation of the Seal Protection Act.

This April 2, a successful demonstration was held at the Canadian Consulate in Los Angeles by Sea Shepherd, Earth First! LA, and animal rights activists. Sixty protesters unfurled banners and chanted demands as the Grim Reaper patrolled. Opposition was voiced as a consulate worker appeared *wearing a seal fur tie!* The consulate refused to comment to media.

The Sea Shepherd is not intimidated by the Seal Protection Act, but due to lack of funds we cannot reach the ice in time this year. Please send a letter opposing the slaughter to the nearest Canadian consulate or embassy; or call them collect. Demand the resignation of Thomas Siddon as federal Fisheries Minister. Sea Shepherd will continue to monitor the situation. If you haven't yet dug deep inside your pockets, please do so now. We desperately need your help to protect the whales, seals, and dolphins. Addresses include: Sea Shepherd, POB 7000-S, Redondo Beach, CA 90277; Embassy of Canada, 1746 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Wash., DC 20036.

Rod Coronado is a Sea Shepherd activist and Earth First! contact in Palm Springs. He will soon depart with Sea Shepherd on their campaign against driftnet fishing in the North Pacific.

The Cost of "Cheap" Canadian Power

by Jim Higgins

Recent news stores about New England states buying "cheap" Quebec power overlooked costs to northern Quebec's wildlife and native peoples. Governor Kunin is right to be concerned about the effect new power deals will have on Vermont's environment as well as on consumers. However, she should also be aware that Vermont's decision to use or broker this "cheap" power will impose high costs on the last true wilderness in eastern North America. Quebec's premier, Robert Bourassa, has shown he doesn't care about these costs. In 1971 he launched the massive James Bay project saying, "we must conquer James Bay." We see this attitude in the US also, especially in the Reagan administration, which is currently advocating oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska where an international herd of Caribou gather to have their young. A difference between the two countries is that in the US we have stronger environmental protection laws and more powerful pro-environment groups.

The James Bay project was started before an "environmental impact study" was done. The study was only conducted after considerable pressure, and it had no legal standing. It became part of the Bourassa Government's public relations effort and contained little of scientific value. Since Bourassa's reelection in 1985, he has vowed to start phase 2 of this project, as part of his plan to "turn this society (Quebec) into one of the wealthiest in North America." After Bourassa announced a $15 billion power deal in February 1987 with Maine, Ted Moses, Grand Chief of the Quebec Cree, stated in a CBC interview, "At this stage we oppose the project because there has been no communication with the Cree on this issue . . . . This is a threat to our way of life and our culture."

In order to understand current concerns, it helps to look at the devastating effects phase 1 of the project has had on the Cree, the Inuit farther to the north, and on wildlife. The most dramatic story was that of the September, 1984, drowning of 10,000 Caribou near the Inuit town of Kujuuak (Fort Chimo), due to a water release from a Hydro-Quebec dam. This alarmed local people because they rely on Caribou for food and because they feared pollution from rotting carcasses would kill many of fish they eat. This story made US headlines, but few of the other equally serious stories have been printed. For example, within the developed area which stretches from the 49th parallel to the 55th parallel, roads have been cut, and the 4000 square miles of water, backed up behind eight massive dams up to 40 stories high, are not lakes but muddy, stump-choked deadwaters. Worse, this flooding has released naturally present mercury which is appearing in unsafe levels in fish consumed locally. Also, some communities lost their traditional sources of fresh water from previously free-flowing rivers.

Phase 2, which would impound the waters of the Great Whale or the Broadback River systems, would devastate many more square miles of this unique area. The decision-makers' lack of concern for these issues was shown by Hydro-Quebec's response to the avoidable loss of the 10,000 Caribou. They claimed that it was "mainly an act of God" and that rain in September had been "torrential." In contrast, local people reported river levels were unusually low until the "incident," as Hydro officials called it. I had been on a canoe trip on the nearby George River that September and was told at salmon fishing camps that water levels were at their lowest in years. This attitude of decision-makers poses the greatest threat to northern Quebec. The loss of 10,000 Caribou can be sustained by the Labrador-Quebec herd of 300,000, which is the largest free ranging Caribou herd left in the world. However as development closes in from all sides, habitat loss will take a much more severe toll. There are also unforeseen factors to consider. Last fall CBC news reported that an estimated 30,000 Caribou had perished of unknown causes in Labrador.

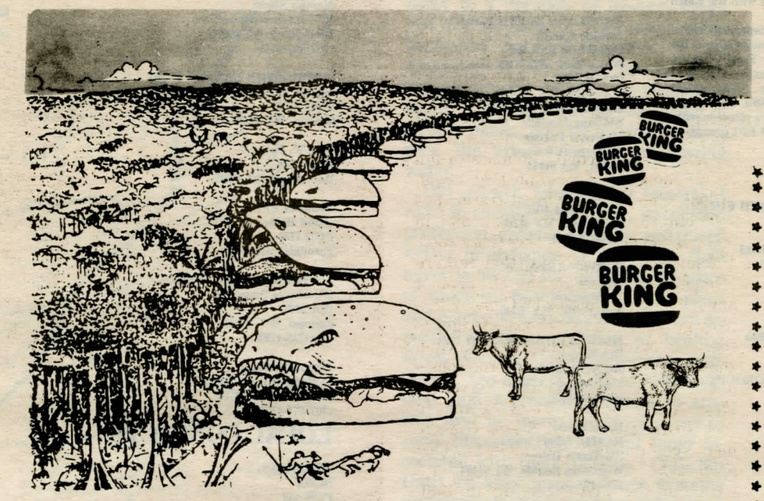
It has long been common for the more powerful urban areas to the south to ruthlessly exploit the north for furs, minerals, oil, hydro-power, etc. A less well known threat comes from the military — as in Nanoose Bay in British Columbia, where the US Navy tests weapons. In Goose Bay, Labrador, the Canadian government is encouraging NATO to set up a training facility, despite the objections of the Native Innu population who have seen the negative effects of current military exercises on wildlife in that region.

Vermont's plan to broker Quebec power to southern New England gives us a special opportunity to examine our values. Do our dishwashers, automatic garage door openers, and other conveni-

STOP RAINFOREST DESTRUCTION!

May is Whopper Stopper Month

by Karen Pickett



We CAN stop the tree-devouring whoppers, and the time is NOW. Earth First!ers are preparing activities for Whopper Stopper month. EF! groups around the country will demonstrate and otherwise publicize a nationwide boycott of Burger King. The boycott will, of course, continue after May, but you can help kick it off by mobilizing people in your community for Whopper Stopper month. Descend on your neighborhood Burger King franchise. Dress as a cow and give the public a graphic representation of how rainforest turns into hamburgers.

In spring of 1984, EF! staged demonstrations at Burger Kings around the country to launch our campaign against fast-food beef and its role in rainforest destruction. By means of the demos, we pressured BK to stop using rainforest beef, and we informed the public about the role of fast-food joints in rainforest destruction. It's time to escalate our campaign. The situation is critical: several Central America countries could lose the remainder of their rainforest within 5-20 years. The burger barons are not the only villains. Along with them are World Bank, the timber industry and others. But in terms of campaigns against rainforest destruction, this one is particularly winnable even in the short-term.

Why? Because the portion of fast-food beef consumed in the US which is from former rainforest areas is small — usually less than 5%. But we import 90% of Central American beef exports. In response to our many protests, BK recently changed their form letter to persons protesting their policy by saying they are "concerned" about environmental impacts of their buying, and are "looking into it."

Our boycott continues, but we've not hit them hard enough in the pocketbook, which is all they'll heed, corporate sleazedogs that they are. When we first held BK demos, we said we weren't there to shut them down, but to convince them to change their buying policies. Three years have passed and they've not changed. We should now call for a nationwide boycott of BK, and other users of rainforest beef as we identify them, and tell them we'll shut them down until they stop importing rainforest beef. No more more Ms. Nice Gal!

We are developing a petition, reprinting the beef fact sheet, and printing Whopper Stopper bumper stickers. We can provide background materials (articles, bibliographies, etc.) upon request. Please include a donation if you can. We'll send a sample press release if you want to do a BK demo and/or press conference. But supporting the boycott can be as simple as writing a letter to BK, encouraging your friends to write, or writing a letter to the editor of your local newspaper. Or you could leaflet your local BK on a regular basis, set up an information table on campus or other public place, or get yourself on a radio talk show. . . .

Put the suckers on notice that they've waited too long to comply with our demands! *Worldwide, rainforest is being destroyed at a rate of 100 acres per minute, and it is estimated that we lose one species a day. That's about 157 million acres and 2000 species we may have lost in the last three years.*

Write Bay Area EF!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516 for materials. Tell us what you plan to do so we know what to send you. Include your phone number if you want us to call. Call your local EF! contact to see if there are plans for BK activities near you. If not, plan some! To tell BK that you intend to see that your town's BK outlet is boycotted, write: Burger King, Public Relations, POB 520783, Miami, FL 33152. Also write to other fast-food chains and tell them of the rainforest beef boycott and the burden of proof that they bear to prove that they don't import beef from Central America. Write to your US senators (Senate, Washington, DC 20510) and representatives (House of Representatives, DC 20515) to demand passage of legislation to eliminate all imports of beef products from regions where rainforest is being converted to cattle pasture. Also demand legislation requiring that beef in supermarkets and elsewhere be labeled as to its origins so that consumers can avoid being part of the destructive process.

ences determine our quality of life? Isn't it possible that our quality of life suffers when it is based on the exploitation of others? The very existence of this awesome wilderness to the north enhances all our lives whether or not we visit it. It gives us a unique opportunity to, in a small way, amend our country's barbaric treatment of Native Americans and our eradication of wilderness.

The simplest way to get involved is to tell our elected and appointed officials that we don't want to be accomplices to Quebec's continued exploitation of our northern neighbors. We have thwarted similar plans in northern New England, such as the Dickey-Lincoln dam on the St. John River and the "Big A" dam on the west branch of the Penobscot River, both in Maine. These projects were rejected not only on environmental grounds but also because they were economically unsound. Likewise, the power we now get from Hydro-Quebec is not the bargain it was touted to be. The James Bay project over-produces power by 5000 megawatts (the whole state of Vermont uses less than 1000 megawatts) and Hydro-Quebec is desperate to sell it. While we can't undo the damage done in phase 1, we can stop phase 2. If the northeastern states don't provide the market for additional power, there will be no "need" to further degrade the land and people of the far north.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Send letters opposing the James Bay project, particularly phase 2, to Northeast governors — Madeleine Kunin, Montpelier, VT; Mario Cuomo, Albany, NY; John Sununu, Concord, NH; William O'Neill, Hartford, CT — and to Premier Robert Bourassa, Provincial Gov. offices, Quebec City, P.Q. Canada; and to Environment Canada, 1179 Bleury St. Montreal, P.Q. Canada; and to Tourisme Quebec, PO Box 20,000, Quebec City, P.Q. G1K 7X2. Concerning NATO, write: Hon Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Ottawa, K1A OH4 Canada; Hon. Perrin Beatty, Minister of Defense, same address; Lord Carrington, Secretary General, NATO, Brussels, 1110, Belgium.

STINKHOLE ALERT FOR FLORIDA

by FLAP
POB 673, Frostproof, FL 33843)

The Florida League Against "Progress" (FLAP) has issued its first statewide Stinkhole Alert, warning that the sewage treatment plant located in an old sinkhole that has sunk into a new sinkhole off US 27 in northern Polk County may be the harbinger of other "stinkholes" to come because tourists hordes are overloading the state's sewage plants, many of which were built before the Big Rat arrived in central Florida. The Alert recommended that anyone who lives near a sewage plant eye it warily and run like hell if crackling sounds are heard. New arrivers should obtain sinkhole maps from chambers of commerce and not locate in or near old ones.

Using state officials' figures, FLAP's Committee on Sinkholes and Flying Saucers said that nine million tourists are, conservatively, draining 900 million gallons of water per day from Florida's aquifers, some of which are tainted by the poisonous pesticide EDB. FLAP added that in light of the additional enormity of water used by some 12 million residents of the Sinkhole State, and agriculture, phosphate mining, etc., it's no wonder that the limestone substrate collapses, without water to support it, causing sinkholes.

Joining the spirit of Governor Martinez's economic impulses, FLAP proposed that the state's Sinkhole Research Institute, now in Orlando, be relocated to the edge of the new US 27 sinkhole, with a boardwalk cantilevered out over the football field-sized cavity. FLAP asserted that travelers on US 27 would happily pay a fee to see a floundering sewage plant in a real live stinkhole. Thus would the Sinkhole Institute be financed, or the tourist tax might be an alternate funding source. Permanent residents could spend the money they save on the state lottery, thereby teaching their children during their formative years about the virtues of gambling to finance better schools that will teach the little darlings that gambling becomes addictive and should be avoided.

FLAP noted that the descending sewage plant was located in a sinkhole because "no one wanted to put their trailers in a basin." If such convoluted logic is widespread in Florida, FLAP asserted, we may soon have an epidemic of stinkholes. If that comes to pass, many of the 800 people a day who are moving to the state may prefer to stop and live in Glorious Georgia, Alluring Alabama or the Charming Carolinas. Florida is still afflicted with the chamber of commerce syndrome, FLAP lamented. It sees all growth as good, no matter how environmentally destructive it may be.

FLAP flatly refused to predict how many sinkholes will develop in Florida in the coming weeks. "We don't like to frighten people or we would estimate 62 sinkholes before the vernal equinox. We are referring all questions about how many of them will be stinkholes to the Roto-rooter people."

FLAP-DOODLE AWARD: The Alachua Chamber of Commerce in Gainesville has just won the uncoveted FLAP-Doodle Award that has been given only four times in ten years to individuals or organizations that have done a horrifying disservice to the state. The Alachua Chamber of Commerce was cited for its covert attempt to suppress public debate on growth and its alleged pressure on the University of Florida to muzzle activist professors who questioned certain development projects.

by Leon Czolgosz

Aerojet Land Swap Is Highly Suspicious

An unsavory proposal to swap over 50,000 acres of public land in Nevada to Aerojet General Corporation for 4,800 acres of Aerojet land near the Florida Everglades may be revived in the current session of Congress, according to Charles S. Watson, Jr., Director of NORA (Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association). Bills that would have authorized the land swap died in the last session of Congress.

The proposal has been heavily criticized by a wide variety of environmental groups. Aerojet, a major defense contractor, has been involved in the illegal dumping of toxic wastes in connection with their operations in California, and contributed heavily to the fight against Proposition 65 (the California Toxic Waste Initiative, which won in spite of industry efforts) during the last election. The land Aerojet wants is in two parcels: 45,000 acres in the Coyote Springs Valley north of Las Vegas and 8900 acres near Hawthorne. The Coyote Springs Valley area, in particular, is critical habitat for several endangered species, including the Desert Tortoise, and includes migration routes for Bighorn Sheep. The Desert Wildlife Range adjoins the area on the west. Aerojet proposes to use the land for testing rocket engines.

Perhaps the most suspicious element in this proposed swap is the alleged value of the land. The Florida acreage has been appraised at $525/acre for a total of $2.4 million, while the much-larger Nevada parcels have been appraised (by the Department of the Interior) at only $45 to $55/acre — for a total of $2.3 million. Yet, a parcel of private property in the Coyote Springs area — the 460-acre Butler Ranch, once the site of a brothel — recently sold for $401/acre. *Note: since the brothel occupied trailers that were removed when it was closed, this land is essentially undeveloped.*

Readers interested in the latest information on the Aerojet situation (and other threats to Nevada's public lands) should contact *Citizen Alert*, POB 5391, Reno, NV 89513 (702-786-4220). Readers are urged to write their senators and representatives to demand that the Aerojet land swap be killed. Send copies of your letters to: Senator Dale Bumpers, Chairman, Public Lands Subcommittee, 229 Dirksen Senate Office Building, DC 20510

Late note: Two bills(S854 and HR1845) have been introduced in Congress to authorize this land swap. Ask congresspersons to oppose these bills.

John Seed Road Show

June - July 1987

Australian Rainforest activist John Seed will be touring the US with the new color film "Earth First!" about efforts to preserve Australian Wilderness in June and July. EF! groups wishing to arrange a presentation by Seed should call Karen Pickett at (415) 376-7329 immediately.

Earth First! Hawaii

*EARTH FIRST! HAWAII. Gentle showers and strong trade winds joined Earth First! Hawaii on March 14 for our inaugural gathering at Waahila Ridge State Park on Oahu. The gathering was spirited, and everyone left with a renewed vision of progressive environmentalism in Hawaii. Mother Earth gained at least six wrenchers here. For information about EF!HI, contact Paul Faulstich, EWC 1265, 1777 East-West Rd, Honolulu, HI 96848 (808-955-3108).

The Earth First! Directory

The Earth First! Directory lists the contact points for the international Earth First! movement. It is divided into three sections: 1) National EF! offices in the United States, and international contacts; 2) Active EF! Chapters or Groups; and 3) Contact persons where there is as yet no active EF! group. If you are interested in becoming active with the Earth First! movement, contact the folks listed for your area.

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is an independent entity within the international Earth First! movement, and is not the newsletter of the Earth First! movement. It does, however, provide a forum for Earth First!ers around the world. This directory is provided as a service to independent EF! groups. If you would like to be listed as a contact or as a group, please contact Bob Kaspar (305 N. Sixth St., Madison, WI 53704 (608)241-9426). Please send address changes or corrections to him also. If you do not have a phone number listed, please send it to him. Bob acts as coordinator for local EF! groups for the EF! movement.

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SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR EARTH FIRST!ERS

***CENTRAL APPALACHIAN RENDEZVOUS! May 15-17. Come one, come all to the first ever Central Appalachian Rendezvous! We will gather along the Glady Fork of the Cheat River in West Virginia, just outside the Otter Creek Wilderness. Here Earth First!ers will have an opportunity to explore the scenic Glady Fork, an old growth Red Spruce/hemlock forest remnant, and the Otter Creek drainage.**

Friday we will set up camps, organize workshops, and meet fellow EF!ers. Saturday and Sunday we will hold workshops on the proposed Shenandoah Wilderness (Bob Mueller), Forest Ecology, Wilderness Recovery, Eastern National Forests, Great Smoky Mountains, and more. There will be plenty of time for exploring. Friday and Saturday nights are reserved for spirits, song, and dance. Dust off those banjos and guitars and bring them along!

The Monongahela National Forest has a policy against reserving campsites, so try to arrive by early Friday afternoon so we can stake out a large area. This is a "primitive" campground but given the popularity of the area, we will not be alone. Bring food and water for three days and be prepared for any weather. Tarps and rope will help in case of rain. For more info, contact: Roland Knapp, Rt. 2 Box 433A, Frostburg, MD 21532 (301-689-5976). If you wish to lead a workshop or contribute music, call Roland ASAP.

*ARIZONA EARTH FIRST! MT. GRAHAM CAMP-OUT, Memorial Day weekend. See details at end of article on Mt. Graham, this issue.

*THE CONGRESS OF TEXAS BIOREGIONS, May 28-31. This bioregional congress will be held at Stonehaven Ranch near San Marcos in the beautiful hill country. Attendees will include representatives from Earth First!, Texas Nature Conservancy and many other groups. Cost will be $50 per person for eight vegetarian meals and three nights lodging. Contact: in north Texas — Gene Marshall 214-324-4629; in central Texas — Michael Dews 512-452-1841; or write Lone Star Green, 3014 Washington Square, Austin 78705.

* A volunteer group of attorneys, scientists, doctors and researchers has formed an anti-nuclear think tank for those who need data and advice for their projects. If interested in this service, write to The Zeus Group (POB 299, Purcellville, VA 22132).

late note: Letters are needed on behalf of the Grizzly who recently killed a man in Glacier National Park. Write to Superintendent Gil Lusk (Glacier NP, West Glacier, MT 59936) in support of the Park's decision not to pursue the bear. It is rare that federal agencies will allow a creature who has attacked a person (in defense of her cubs, in this case) to survive.

*GULF OF MAINE/NEW ENGLAND EARTH FIRST! MEETING, August 29. Gary Lawless is organizing a meeting of Earth First!ers as part of the Gulf of Maine Bioregional Congress. The Congress will be held at the Hidden Valley Camp, Freedom, Maine, August 27-30. The EF! gathering will be on Saturday morning. The cost of the Congress, including room and board, is $65 for four days or $20 a day. It will feature cultural events, workshops and camping on a lake. For information, contact Gary at: Gulf of Maine, 61 Maine St., Brunswick, ME 04011 (207-729-5083).

*CAMP FOR NATURE FRIENDS, Hungary. The "Camp for Nature Friends" environmental gathering will take place August 10-17, 1987, in the Matra Mountains of Hungary. This annual event offers an unusual chance for environmentists from Eastern Europe

to meet their counterparts from the West. Activities include lectures, trips to gather medicinal plants and other outings. Costs are minimal. If you are planning a trip to Europe this summer and would like to learn of the growing environmental movement of the Soviet bloc, this is your chance. For information, contact: Reszo Baross, H-1136 Budapest, Balzac u. 11, HUNGARY.

*WORLD DAY OF PROTEST AGAINST WHALING, June 5, 1987. June 5 is also World Environment Day, established at the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, where the plight of whales became the symbol of the world's environmental problems. Organizations are urged to develop programs to culminate on June 5 and to inform the public, media, US agencies, foreign embassies and consulates that: 1. The moratorium on commercial whaling adopted by the International Whaling Commission in 1982 and scheduled to take effect in December, 1985, is not observed. 2. Whales are still being killed for commercial purposes under the guise of so-called scientific research whaling. 3. Science is being misused by those countries issuing scientific whaling permits; the research is poorly planned and is not expected to increase understanding of whale population dynamics. For information, write: Mark Palmer, Whale Center, 3929 Piedmont Ave, Oakland, CA 94611 (415-654-6621).

*SAVE THE GREAT LAKES! Tony Saladino is bicycling around the Great Lakes to bring attention to solutions to pollution problems. He seeks groups to help organize activities promoting environmental awareness and the idea that our problems can be solved. Please organize locally for events on June 19 (the day he'll finish). Tony can be reached c/o Darlene Andries, POB 424, Iola, WI 54945.

*EARTH FIRST! LOCAL GROUPS' NEWSLETTERS. Local EF! groups — including EF! Santa Cruz, Colorado, Washington, Bay Area, Texas, and New Mexico — and EF!'s Nomadic Action Group are now printing newsletters for their adherents. These are a fine source of information for regional environmental events and issues. For addresses of these newsletters, see local groups in the EF! Directory. If you start a new newsletter, or if we failed to mention yours here, please add us to your mailing list.

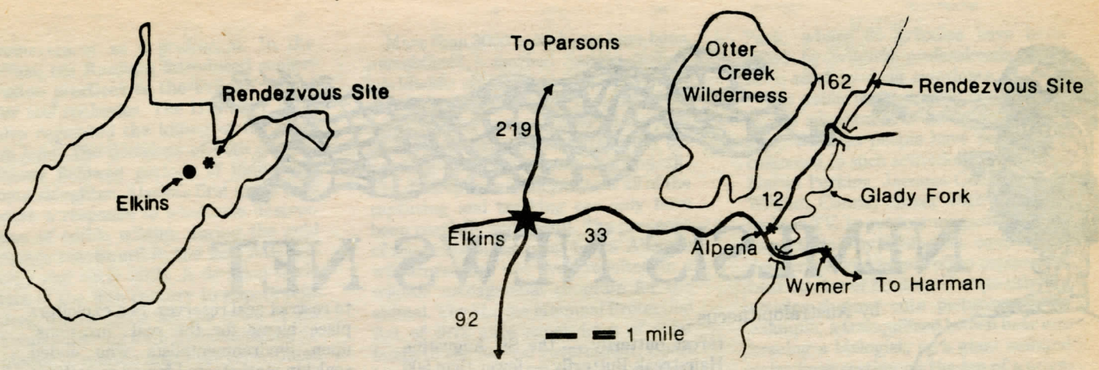
*EARTH FIRST! RENDEZVOUS AT DELORES CANYON, Memorial Day weekend, May 23-25. Join Colorado and New Mexico EF!ers for the Dolores Canyon Rendezvous, on the Dolores River near Bedrock, CO, southwest of Grand Junction and west of Naturita. Where the highway crosses the Dolores, turn south on the dirt road which follows the west side of the river. Head south about one-half mile — from here, it is a one-half to one mile hike to the site. Bring drinking water, ideas, instruments, tarps, firewood, and energy! For more info, contact: CO EF!, POB 1166, Boulder, CO 80306.

Editors' notes

ERRATA: We failed to acknowledge, in our recent Sea Shepherd article, that the photo of the whale slaughter in Iceland was taken by Ray Baker. We also erred in our photo credits with Tom Stoddard's Africa article. All photos with Tom's Africa articles are by Joy Stoddard.

PRIORITY LETTERS: From this issue, we suggest that the most important letters to write are those dealing with Belize, James Bay Project, Tongass Forest, Six Rivers National Forest, and the Kalmiopsis.

NERTHUS: Christoph Manes, our scholar in exile (in southern California), has kindly offered to begin compiling an occasional four-page supplement, to be titled "Nerthus," for our Journal, consisting of philosophical essays focusing around one subject per issue. For this first *Earth First!* deep ecology supplement, Christoph wishes to address the subject of "the relationship between paganism and Deep Ecology. I'm looking for manuscripts that deal with the ways in which modern paganism can contribute to overcoming technological culture, especially in terms of the power relations technological concepts of time, space and value enforce." Send manuscripts to Christoph at POB 3897, Anaheim, CA 92803.



Map to Central Appalachian EF! Rendezvous, May 15 -17. See article on opposite page.

Jefferson NF Sold to Timber Companies

by R.F. Mueller and Martha Slover

In an unprecedented move, the Jefferson National Forest (JNF) of Virginia is allowing a timber industry front organization free rein in the forest. The Freddies have entered into a cooperative agreement with the "Appalachian Forest Management Group" (AFMG), a group started by WESTVACO last fall to promote timber interests with the Forest Service. Under the agreement, AFMG will perform such activities as "waterhole construction, clearing development, fish habitat development, access to firewood sales and any other beneficial resource projects."* Now the Timberbeast will have numerous pretexts to enter our National Forest to bulldoze roads, cut timber, and in general alter the terrain in ways to further its interests under the guise of public benefit.

This agreement is further evidence that it is foolish to negotiate with Freddies. The Citizen's Task Force, a local coalition of Sierra Clubbers, other environmental groups, and hunters, took the JNF to court to reduce clearcutting and roadbuilding. After seven months of negotiations, they succeeded. Now the Freddies will build 20 miles of road a year (down from 36), move approximately 3000 acres (out of 247,000) from clearcut to "uneven-age management," increase ORV roads by 15%, increase ORV trails 51%, and perform the above activities with AFMG. The door is now open for the timber industry to direct the desecration of our forests. If we allow this agreement to stand, it will set a dangerous precedent for every National Forest in the US. If the Forest Service persists in this folly, we should demand a corresponding right to close roads and engage in other hands-on activities to protect nature in the Jefferson. Protests should be sent be sent to Thomas A Hoots, Supervisor, Jefferson NF, 210 Franklin Road SW, Roanoke, VA 24001.

*Quoted from *Jefferson News*, a FS newsletter available from above address.

R.F. Mueller and Martha Slover are Virginia EF! contacts.

MEDICINE SHOW GOOD FOR WHAT AILS YOU

The Deep Ecology Medicine Show — featuring Lone Wolf Circles, Dakota Sid and Walkin' Jim Stoltz — opened April 10 in Ashland, Oregon, and is continuing through several Western states (see Eostar, p.13). The Show is gaining rave reviews. The updated tour schedule for May/June is as follows (phone numbers are for local contacts):

May 19, Ojai, CA — 805-646-6386
May 20, L.A. City College, 5:20 PM — 818-784-6176; (tentative show, Venice)
May 21, San Diego — 619-481-6784
May 29, Tucson, AZ — 602-745-3907
May 30, Flagstaff — Mary Sojourner, 602-774-8601
May 31, Santa Fe, NM — (see directory for local contact)
June 6, Boulder, CO — (see directory)
June 7, Carbondale — Les Rogers, 303-945-1267
June 21, Brietenbush Hots Springs, OR — 503-854-3501
June 23-27 — Deep Ecology Workshop, Brietenbush — same

Earth First! on Campus in the Northwoods

by Sarah Black

I was sure I had found the college of my dreams when I saw Northland College's brochure: a small liberal arts/environmental college in northern Wisconsin on the shores of Lake Superior with "Chequamegon National Forest in its backyard." During my first year here I found that Northland wasn't very environmental; it has no environmental policies at all. Some friends and I have decided to do something about this. We have started an Earth First! chapter.

When Andrea and I first talked to Michael Frome, Northland's Environmental Scholar-in-Residence, about starting our chapter, Dave Foreman was mentioned as a possible speaker. Michael said the campus would have to change in a big way before he would consider asking Dave to come. Due to our experience with apathy here, we thought a visit by Dave was years away.

Nevertheless, we launched a mission to spark Northland College to be the environmental institution it claims to be. Our first project is to clean up garbage that has been dumped for years by our maintenance department in a lovely natural ravine that runs through campus. The administration didn't take us seriously when we first raised the issue. Feeling that widespread campus awareness was essential, late one night we placed two truck loads of representative debris in front of a classroom building and six of us camped next to it. This brought the necessary publicity and a meeting with the college president. He suggested that this sort of embarrassment wasn't necessary, that we should work together through the channels. The *Ashland Daily Press* printed a picture and a news release, and our school newspaper printed ten Earth First! articles. Hopefully the president will agree to draw up a written agreement, with dates. If he doesn't, we may have to cause more bad publicity.

Meanwhile, attendance at meetings has gone from six to 30-35 at the last four meetings. Earth First! has been recognized as a campus organization, with our constitution reading, "Earth First! is made up of individuals whose only binding goal is 'No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth.' There are no dues, restrictions, or regulations on those individuals who consider themselves part of Earth First!" We now have a bank account of money from our aluminum pick-ups and sales of *EF! Journals*. Our group is also working on active and passive energy conservation on campus.

There has been a change around campus in the last month — people are getting involved. I was flabbergasted when I heard that Michael Frome had seen the change too, and invited Dave to come speak at Northland in March. (Over 100 people attended Dave's talk.) Northland is waking up!

Northland College Earth First! is considering conducting a workshop at the 87 RRR on college EF! groups.

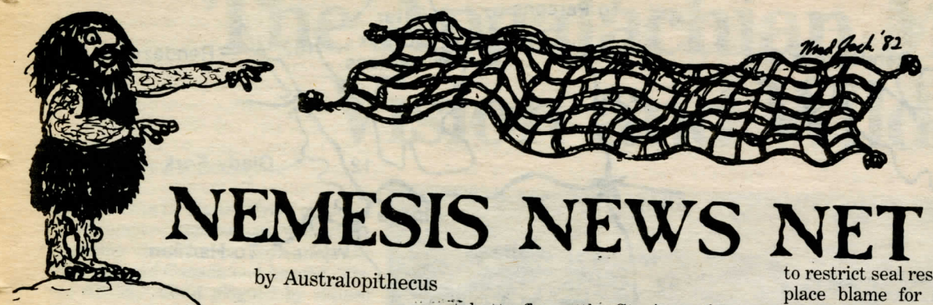
Montana Wilderness Taken to Washington

by Benjamin L White, Jr.

On March 2, Earth First! and Sea Shepherd held a surreptitious tree planting in Washington, DC, beneath the window of the Chief of the US Forest Service. At the request of Walkin' Jim Stoltz, Virginia Earth First!ers executed this guerrilla planting of one pin oak. This was in sympathy with the concurrent demonstration in Missoula, Montana, protesting the plan to eliminate most of that state's wilderness. Our little demonstration was highlighted by our colorful and irreverent signs. To get the most notice, we planted the tree at noon to the curiosity and amusement of Forest Service employees who crowded the windows facing our little tree. No attempt was made to stop us although we distributed leaflets to police officers and to several FS big shots (including the chief).

After our quiet rebellion, I delivered a copy of the impertinent information to both Montana senators in their marble mausoleum on Capitol Hill. Incidentally, this action represents a continuation of the budding marriage between Sea Shepherd and Earth First!. May this unholy matrimony grow and prosper.

Benjamin L White, Jr., is the Atlantic Director of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.



NEMESIS NEWS NET

by Australopithecus

Designer Cats Sold

"Designer cats," bred to resemble wild cats such as Ocelots and Jaguarundis, are now available for about $1200. That wealthy persons pay exorbitant sums to have pets bred for them while millions of homeless dogs and cats wander American streets would be positively unnerving were it not for the consideration that, perchance, "designer cats" may lessen the demand for wild cat pelts. Indeed, the rich could now obtain their exotic fur coats by skinning their deceased pets.

Welk Disc Shocks and Rocks

Those of you who were enraged by the removal of Lawrence Welk from prime time TV, and who have mused over his current whereabouts, will be pleased to learn that not only is he alive and kicking; Larry W. has gone punk! Lawrence Welk enthusiasts who ordered their hero's Polka Party compact disc have received a surprise: Turning on the discs, they have been greeted not by bursting champaign bubbles, sugar-coated music, and "Thannk you, thannk you, ladies and gentlemen . . ." but instead by the hard punk rock soundtrack to "Sid and Nancy." A spokeswoman for Welk Enterprises explained, "The CDs were apparently mislabeled at the factory in Japan. We got several calls from ladies who were shocked by the language on the record. They said they couldn't even repeat it." However, a Vermont EF!er and leading scholar of the Welk legend suspects ecotage. Said he: "Simply an 'accident'? An innocent 'mislabeling'? Or have Japanese ecoteurs scored an incredible coup by striking the very heart of American culture?! What's that I hear? The audible rending of the heart of Western society?"

England Completes Toad Tunnel

Roads in England have spelled doom for so many toads that the British are building a series of underpasses so that toads may cross roads in safety. A prototype tunnel under the Henley road near Hamblenden has been finished. In recent years — despite the valiant efforts of hundreds of "toad lovers" who watch roads at night and escort toads across — 20 tons of toads per breeding season are killed by drivers as they (the toads, not the drivers) hop from dry winter grounds to spring mating ponds. With the new toad saving designs, fences running along their winter grounds will funnel the amorous toads into the tunnels. (*Arizona Daily Star*) Unfortunately, toad saving efforts are not under way in the US despite the myriads of reptiles squashed on roads each spring in wet areas such as southern Minnesota.

Raccoons Sabotage A-10s

A military journal reports that "masked saboteurs" recently damaged eight A-10s. Investigation revealed that the Raccoons entered the attack bombers through the wheel wells and inflicted serious damage to wiring inside the wings. Since these acts of ecotage, a locally designed plug has succeeded in blocking the Raccoons' entry into the aircraft. Nevertheless, the report warns: ". . . A very small animal can cause a lot damage that may not be found until something serious goes wrong. So don't ignore any clues you see. . . ." (classified)

Development Threatens Butterfly

Developer Pierre Thompson plans to build a 130-home subdivision on Anastasia Island, St. Augustine, Florida, despite the threat this poses to Florida's rarest butterfly — the St. Augustine Hairstreak Butterfly — fewer than 500 of which remain. St. Augustine's City Commission recently approved an ordinance to protect the butterflies' habitat; they live among Southern Red Cedar trees near the St. Augustine lighthouse. The new ordinance requires replacement of each felled cedar with two more elsewhere. Thompson argues that the island still has plenty of cedars despite the fact that their population has fallen from over 1000 to under 200 in recent years. (*Idaho Statesman*, 2-25-87)

Elk Released in Kansas Shot

Kansas no longer has many mammals dependent upon undeveloped lands to survive; but last year Elk were reintroduced on the Fort Riley military base. Three were released . . . and three were shot. Late in the year, a woman reported to a wildlife conservation officer that she had shot and wounded a cow Elk in the Milford Wildlife Management Area. She said she'd fired shots at three animals in what she thought was a deer herd, and that she'd hit the third. Investigation by the officer and the hunter revealed that the hunter was poorer of eyesight but better of aim than she'd thought. Returning to the area near the hunting stand, they found three dead or dying Elk. The officer charged the hunter with three counts of illegally taking Elk. In a precedent-setting sentence, a judge allowed her to forgo jail and a fine in return for her reintroduction of five Elk to the Fort Riley reservation, suspension of her hunting license, and 100 hours of community service. (*Kansas Wildlife*, Mar/Apr 87)

Parks Lose Mammals

A recent study of 14 National Parks and Park complexes in North America reveals that they have lost a total of at least 42 mammal species. Bryce Canyon, Crater Lake, Glacier-Waterton Lakes, Grand Canyon, Grand Teton-Yellowstone, Lassen Volcanic, Mt. Ranier, Olympic, Rocky Mountain, Sequoia-Kings Canyon, Yosemite, and Zion (US), and Manning Provincial (Canada) have all lost at least one species of mammal. The only park area of the 14 not found to have lost any mammal species is the largest one studied — the Kootenay-Banff-Jasper-Yoho park complex along the British Columbia-Alberta border. The others have lost such species as the Grizzly Bear, Gray Wolf, Lynx, Gray Fox, Wolverine, Bighorn Sheep, River Otter, Pronghorn, Mink, Raccoon, or a species of jackrabbit or skunk. The study verified that the smaller the park, the higher the risk of extinctions.

Dams May Save Habitat?

Developers of a supermarket in Madison, Mississippi, are being thwarted by an unexpected adversary — dam builders; unexpected, that is, until one learns that the dam builders are Beavers. Beavers have transformed the solid building site into mud and mire. The construction company has lost months of work and a one-ton backhoe — which the mire swallowed — due to the dams. Workers have repeatedly destroyed the Beaver dams, only to see them rebuilt. Jitney Jungle Stores now *hopes* to finish its 26,000 square foot supermarket next fall, half a year behind schedule.

Seals Commit Eco-theft

Seals have learned to exploit fish farms along Norway's northern coast. So effective have the seals become at devouring farm fry, that they are considered a threat to Norway's fisheries and to settlement in many Norwegian coastal areas . Alas, the seals' efforts to win back their homes may backfire. The Norwegian delegation to the Nordic Council — comprised of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Finland — intends to urge these Nordic countries to restrict seal reserves. Sea exploiters place blame for the seal "invasions" upon environmentalists who ended sealskin markets and forced reductions in sealing. (Earthtrust X Press)

Meanwhile, seals along California's coast are also under attack for defending their surf. Eight seals have recently been shot in California, in violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, likely by fishermen angry at facing competition for dwindling fish populations. Abalone and Sea Urchin divers are also angry at the pinnipeds. Divers at San Nicolas Island claim increasing harassment by Steller Sea Lions and Elephant Seals. Like the Norwegian exploiters, US fishermen and divers are attacking marine mammal protection rules. While also opposing reintroduction of Sea Otters to San Nicolas Island, fishermen are trying to weaken the Marine Mammal Protection Act. (*Santa Barbara News-Press*, 1-20-87)

Cheetahs Totter on the Brink

Biologists have found evidence that the Cheetah population — now down to 20,000 — may live nearer the edge of doom than previously thought. Researchers have found that Cheetahs in their last two ranges — South Africa and East Africa — show alarmingly low genetic variability. Not only does this entail high vulnerability to environmental stochasticity, it also suggests that Cheetahs have previously experienced near-extinctions. Their present genetic homogeneity results, it is theorized, from huge population decreases during the mass extinctions following the Pleistocene epoch 10-12,000 years ago (which in North America included the demise of the megafauna — including the Cheetah, perhaps at the hands of human hunters), and a second near-extinction for the southern group last century due to European hunters. Near-extinctions leave so few individuals to perpetuate the species that inbreeding is unavoidable. (*Washington Post*, 2-16-87)

Fear of Radicals Stops Meeting

A February meeting scheduled by the Forest Service to receive comments on the proposed Bridger-Teton forest plan was canceled due to fears of violence. Rumors circulated through Dubois, Wyoming, that Earth First! might attend the meeting. Forest Service officials feared a confrontation between locals and "outside influences." Forest Service officials also feared that the free beer to be offered before the meeting by pro-logging forces, to encourage Dubois residents to attend, would not lend itself to a peaceful meeting. In canceling the meeting, the Freddies thwarted plans for a mock funeral procession organized by Women in Timber, and for logging trucks to surround the school where the meeting was to be held. (*Wyoming State Journal*, 2-18-87)

Agribusiness Kills NV Fish

Biologists suspect that highly saline water left over from agricultural and municipal use is the cause of the recent deaths of 7,000,000 fish at northern Nevada's Stillwater Wildlife Management Area. The victims were Tui Chubs — eight- to ten-inch scavenging fish that inhabit the Carson Sink, the terminus of the Humboldt and Carson Rivers. The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) says that unless fresh water is again allowed to flow into the Carson Sink, the whole Management Area, including the Fallon and Stillwater National Wildlife Refuges, will be endangered. Carson River water is now diverted for municipal use and for crops of alfalfa, winter wheat, barley, and melons. The irrigation water that doesn't evaporate picks up salts as it percolates through the ground before returning to the river. EDF warns that many refuges in the West have no remaining supply of clean water, as was manifested dramatically last year at Kesterson NWR in California. (*L.A. Times*)

Locals Pose Grave Threat to Smokies Wilderness

Two bills to designate most of Great Smoky Mountains National Park as Wilderness have been introduced in Congress. Democrats Terry Sanford (NC) and James Sasser (TN) in the Senate, and James Clark (NC) in the House, have introduced legislation to designate about 90% of the Park as Wilderness, while leaving existing roads and other developments intact. This 467,000-acre bill is being countered by a 400,000-acre Wilderness bill introduced by Republican Senator Jesse "The Earth Is Flat" Helms of North Carolina. In 1984, a similar situation resulted in the better bill being blocked by Helms' weak bill. Unfortunately, Swain County locals are fighting the good Wilderness bill because they want access to their dead. The North Shore Cemetery Association demands continued free boat rides to their 23 cemeteries — which both bills insure — and extension of a road 30 miles through the Park so that they can drive to visit forebears — which Helms' bill requires while the other enjoins. These grave visitors lost easy access when the artificial Fontana Lake was created and the National Park was established. Readers may write their US legislators saying that Wilderness protection must take precedence over road access to graves. Already, free boat access is provided; passage of a strong Smokies Wilderness bill is essential.

'Twas Beer, Not an Apple, As Caused Our Fall

Our fall from the state of nature may have been prompted not by food, as has traditionally been assumed, but by beer. The current issue of *Expedition* (Museum of Archeology/Anthropology at U of PA) describes a study in which Solomon Katz and Mary Voigt found evidence (e.g. a cuneiform of a jug with two men sipping from it through straws) that when our neolithic ancestors turned from gathering and hunting to farming, 10,000 years ago, "the realization that grain could be used to make beer was what primed the pump." The brew of 10,000 years ago, "kash" in Sumerian, was available in a variety of shades and strengths. Alas for this irony — that Earth First!, the tribe seeking a return to gathering/hunting lifestyles, is also the tribe most renowned for what apparently caused us to abandon such lifestyles — swilling cerveza.

Crocodile Eats Ginger

Ginger Fay Meadows, 24, of Colorado, was eaten recently by a Saltwater Crocodile in the remote Prince Regent River near Australia's west coast. Although the crocodile was merely nine feet long (Saltwater Crocodiles can reach lengths of 20 feet), the rubber raft Ginger was riding also disappeared in the attack. (Ginger's remains were later found.) This indicates the inadvisability of sending young people into wild waters inhabited by large reptilian predators.

Letters

Addresses include: US senators, Senate, Washington, DC 20510; US representatives, House of Representatives, DC 20515.

*The Reagan Administration sent its fiscal year 1988 budget to Congress in January. The budget proposes a timber harvest of 11.1 billion board feet (bbf) and a roads budget of $328 million. Tragically, mainstream environmentalists are countering these proposals only with the slightly less inane figures of 9-10 bbf and $212 million or less. Please write to US legislators, and to Wilderness Society and Sierra Club headquarters if you are a member, urging a moratorium on timber cutting and road-building in the National Forests — zero board feet, zero roads budget. It is of paramount importance to direct such epistolary appeals to the Chair of the Interior Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Robert Byrd; Chair of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, J. Bennett Johnston; and Chair of the Subcommittee on Public Lands, National Parks and Forests, Dale Bumpers.

*The draft plan for the North Fork in Glacier National Park is finished but flawed. It fails to dictate Wilderness management for Kintla and Bowman Lakes. It omits discussion of motor-

TRIBAL LORE

Old Growth Pull-out Available

The Alliance, a fine environmental/peace newspaper with an emphasis on Northwest issues, has produced a pull-out on old growth. To obtain this informative four page supplement — which includes information on old growth in the Bull Run watershed, in the Breitenbush watershed, and in the proposed Siskiyou National Park — write: The Alliance, POB 14742, Portland, OR 97214. The Alliance needs donations to help send the supplement to more people.

Nature Watch Series Available

Carolrhoda Books, a publisher of juvenile books, has produced a conservation-oriented series entitled Nature Watch Books. One of the best of this series is *Saving the Peregrine Falcon*($12.95, 48pp., ages 7-10; 1985). To order, or for information, write: Carolrhoda Books, 241 First Ave N, Mnpls., MN 55401.

WISE Reports Sabotage of Milk

The World Information Service on Energy reports the following action by West Germany's increasingly radical anti-nuclear activists (WISE publishes a highly informative bi-weekly newsletter available from: WISE-Amsterdam, PO Box 5627, 1007 AP Amsterdam, The Netherlands):

"West German anti-nuclear activists broke into train cars filled with radioactive powdered milk [in February], throwing milk-filled sacks into the snow, cutting some open and pouring oil over others. Apparently activists wanted to make sure that the milk, which West German environmental minister Wallman said still had commercial value, would not be used. . . . The milk powder originally came from Bavaria, where shortly after Chernobyl, milk producers were ordered to turn their milk into powder and were compensated for their losses. . . . There are unconfirmed reports that the milk was going to be exported to Egypt and Brazil."

BAN Seeks Bear Protection

Paul Gallimore of Long Branch Environmental Education Center (LBEEC) and other contributors of the excellent bioregional journal *Katuah* (Box 873, Cullowhee, NC 28723; $10/yr) continue to lead the Bear Action Network (BAN) in its fight to protect North Carolina's dwindling population of Black Bears. BAN asks North Carolinians to call 1-800-662-7137 to report bear sightings or wildlife violations. BAN asks environmentalists to send letters requesting a ban on future use of radio collars to: Wildlife Resource Commissioners, 512 N Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC 27611; and Roger Powell, NCSU, Zoology Dept., Raleigh, NC 27695-7617. Poachers have been tuning in to the radio frequencies of the collars, enabling them to locate and kill the bears. To help BAN save bears, write: BAN, c/o LBEEC, Rt.2 Box 132, Leicester, NC 28748.

Animal Journals Discuss Radical Actions

Given the surfeit of environmental and animal rights periodicals published, there seems little need for new periodicals on such subjects. Yet, largely due to the considerable attention they give to radical activism, two new ones have impressed us — *The Animals' Voice: The California Connection*, and *Lomakatsi*. The following is reprinted from *The Animals' Voice*, a quarterly which covers issues of domestic and wild animals in California especially but also worldwide:

On Saturday, December 7, four baby chimpanzees (chimps are a threatened species) scheduled to be used for AIDS research were taken from a Rockville, Maryland, laboratory by a clandestine group called True Friends. Records documenting dozens of "accidental" animal deaths were also removed.

While inside the SEMA Corporation lab, True Friends filmed the abysmal conditions under which the animals live, and copies of the film have been distributed nationwide. . . .

The SEMA lab, which does chemical, carcinogen and disease research, has used animals, primates almost exclusively, for 14 years. The lab houses more than 700 primates, but the company employs only one veterinarian. In 1985, 22 animals were steamed to death when a broken valve sent steam spewing into one of the labs. Sick and dying animals were discovered at 2:15 PM but a veterinarian didn't arrive until 5:45 PM. The SEMA lab (formerly Meloy) has been receiving taxpayer funds through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for years. SEMA has a history of failing to meet even minimum requirements set forth by the Animal Welfare Act. . . .

PETA Washington is calling for an investigation of the massive NIH budget, from which tax monies are allocated to places like SEMA. Write to your congressional representatives and ask them to call for an independent government investigation of NIH's budget. Cite SEMA as a classic case of how research laboratories perpetrate and perpetuate animal cruelty in science.

Animals' Voice is published by The Animals' Voice, Inc., a non-profit California corporation. Correspondence should be mailed to POB 4305, Chico, CA 95927.

The second new animal rights periodical we recommend is named for the Hopi word, *Lomakatsi*, meaning life in balance (the opposite of *koyaanisqatsi*). This magazine began with an impressive selection of both philosophical essays and action-oriented articles, with a heart-warming emphasis on radical direct action such as the monkeywrenching acts of Animal Liberation Front. The well-written and thought provoking articles include the following:

1) In "Animal Enslavement: Are there any insights from earlier Abolitionists?" they offer several lessons for animal rights activists from anti-slavery activists. 2) An article on creative use of stickers suggests strategic placement of inflammatory stickers — e.g., a sticker to be applied to human fur-bearers' backs saying "Kick me I'm wearing fur." 3) A news item on an animal rights network — DLN — provides the following sources for information on radical actions in defense of animals: DLN Network, 3421 M St, NW, Suite 1329, Wash., DC 20007 — from whom can be obtained the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) Handbook on tactics for the cost of xeroxing ($2-3); Frontline News—Canada, ALF Support Group, POB 915, Station F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9; Earth First; Human-Animal Liberation Front, POB 1990 Cathedral Station, NY, NY 10025; ALF, BCM Box 1160, London WC1N 3XX, England. 4) "Animal Liberation and Anarchism — Part One" opens a fascinating discussion of the many parallels between currents within anarchy movements and animal rights movements. 5) "A Beginners Guide to Animal Rights Graffiti" describes, in cartoon and text, how to "help liberate animals and people by freeing the minds of those who consume." 6) "Ya, but what about plants?" addresses a subject too often ignored by animal rights activists, and suggests that — like Montaigne, Leopold and Schweitzer — we "bring the entire natural world into the realm of ethical concern." 7) "Animal Rights and Deep Ecology Movements" is a reprint of Chim Blea's classic essay in Litha 86 *Earth First!*, followed by an invitation for readers to consider the possibility of the two movements working together. 8) "Died in the Wool" is a brief expose on the atrocities committed upon sheep raised for wool. 9) "ALF on Trial" is an interview of British ALF activists, which is particularly timely given the recent four to ten year jail sentences assigned to ten ALF activists in England. 10) "1-800-Killers" lists *toll-free* numbers of animal lab equipment dealers, furriers, and other animal exploiting institutions. Readers may use these numbers as a means of protest, at the expense of the exploiters. 11) "Taking it to the Streets" is a fine primer on street theatre. Lastly, we compliment the article, "The War on Animals: Military Uses of Nonhumans," from which we quote the following:

An excerpt from the introduction [of a pamphlet on animal experiments performed by the US army, air force and navy] reads: "It is perhaps the most terrible irony of scientific research that the US Armed Forces, ostensibly preparing to defend this country in the event of enemy attack, has long been waging a massive and brutal war within our own borders — a laboratory war with warm-blooded animals. All the cruel and catastrophic injuries of modern warfare, from hemorrhages and concussions to gunshot wounds and massive burns, are purposely inflicted on animals time and time again by researchers reporting to one branch or another of the US Department of Defense. Likewise, researchers have sacrificed scores of thousands of animals, testing the effects of radioactivity and toxic nerve gases, creating in their laboratories mini-holocausts in order to study war scenarios . . ." The pamphlet, "Military Madness," is free and available from the The National Anti-Vivisection Society, 100 E Ohio St, Chicago, IL 60611.

Action against the military's use of animals in war research is needed for several reasons: the unnecessary death of hundreds of thousands of animals each year; the waste of millions of tax dollars; the use of the research to prepare the US for war. Urge your Senators and Congresspersons to introduce in Congress a bill to ban all such research using animals. People might also organize demonstrations at military facilities using animals. Finally, the research needs to be exposed throughout the country at individual facilities. Obtain the research protocols, grants, progress reports and other materials through medical libraries and the Department of Defense, and then expose what is going on. As always, photographs help to make the case. Consider working with anti-military groups and individuals as well as animal liberation people . . .

To obtain this fine magazine, write: Lomakatsi, Box 1315, 1900 M St, NW, Wash., DC 20036.

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boats — which toys Park rangers are wont to enjoy. It fails to dictate closure of the Inside Road. Comments on the plan (and/or requests for it) go to Sup. Gil Lusk, GNP, W. Glacier, MT 59936. Ask for no motorboats in the Park, and closure of Inside Road. Balderdash; demand Wilderness protection for the whole Park!

*The Commission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department will soon hear recommendations from staff that killing Mountain Lions during snow months be prohibited. Lions are vulnerable to packs of hounds when snow helps the hounds follow their scent. Lion numbers have dropped so low in snow hunt areas that even some hunters support this closure. Please write to members of the Game and Fish Commission. Urge them to vote for the closed kill season. Point that the resolution as presented does have a problem. It allows hunters to pursue and tree lions as long as they don't kill them, which creates an enforcement nightmare. Ask for a true closed season. AGFD Commissioners: Linn Montgomery, Box 5640, NAU, Flagstaff, AZ 86011; Fred Baker, HR Baker and Sons Ranch, Elgin, 85611; Francis Werner, 3216 N Jackson, Tucson 85719; Thomas Woods Jr., 3401 W Morton, Phoenix, 85051.

*Amazon River Dolphins in recent years have been reduced to dangerously low numbers by agricultural pesticide poisoning, lowering of water levels by dams and irrigation diversions, slaughtering by fishermen, and depletion of fish supplies. For information on these threats to *Inia geoffrensis*, contact Preservation of the Amazon River Dolphin, 3302 N Burton Ave, Rosemead, CA 91770 (818-572-0233). To plead for protection of Amazon River Dolphins, write: Brazilian Embassy, Ambassador, Sr. Sergio Correa da Costa, 3006 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Wash., DC 20008.

*In February of 1985, a 330-foot ferry, the *A. Regina*, wrecked on a coral reef off Mona Island, between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. This rich coral reef was one of the few remaining healthy reefs in the Caribbean Sea and Mona was the last sanctuary for turtles in the Caribbean, its beaches especially critical as habitat for the Hawksbill Turtle. Tragically, Regina's scraping against the reef and release of its cargo of boards, furniture, cables, plastics, and other trash are killing the reef, Mona's beaches, and the turtles. Due to Mona Island being under US jurisdiction and due to various US regulations, such as the Endangered Species Act (the Hawksbill is Endangered), the wreck should have been removed immediately by the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources, the US Army Corps of Engineers, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Yet these agencies have all dodged responsibility. Please ask your legislators to sponsor legislation mandating removal of the wreck and restoration, to the extent possible, of the Mona Island area.

*Representative Leon Panetta (D-CA) has introduced legislation to designate Monterey Bay, off the coast of central California, a National Marine Sanctuary. Panetta's bill would require the Secretary of Commerce (presently Malcolm Baldridge; the Commerce Department oversees Marine Sanctuaries) to develop a management plan identifying threats to this marine canyon. Sanctuary status would offer nominal protection — for the Gray Whales, Blue Whales, Humpback Whales and numerous other species which frequent the bay — from the threats of sewage dumping, agricultural run-off, and future offshore drilling. Urge your senators and representatives to support HR 734, the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary Bill. (source: Whale Center, 3929 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, CA 94611)

*Pressure your senators and representatives to strengthen and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act. Strengthening provisions should include: 1. increased protection for marine species and plants (only 21 marine species are listed; listed plants are only protected from being taken if they live on federal land); 2. increased funds for the US Fish and Wildlife Service to list candidate species; 3. interim protection for candidate species. If you'd rather call than write your congresspersons, call the capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121. ("Endangered Species Act Reauthorization Bulletin," free from NRDC, 1350 New York Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20005)

Don Young, Oil & Gas, and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

by Michael Lewis

The gauntlet of challenge has been thrown at the feet of environmental groups throughout the US! The Honorable (?) Don Young, Alaska's representative to the US House of Representatives is sponsoring legislation to block Morris Udall's attempt to designate as Wilderness the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) in northwest Alaska, to stop oil exploration in this delicate ecosystem. (See article by Laura Gold in Yule issue. Secretary of the US Department of Interior, Don Hodel, announced late last year the Interior Department's support for full exploration of the Coastal Plain.) In a recent interview, Young said the following about the development of ANWR: [note: The grammatical peculiarities are those of the speaker, not of the writer or editor.]

My job now is to keep Mo (Udall) from locking up the Arctic Coastal Plain. That doesn't mean that we can open it. But we can stop, then we can open at a later date or maybe even at a sooner date if we have a national crisis. It is my intent to, through my legislation, I have 25 cosponsors now, I hope to have 118 by the first of May and will attempt to get that many. In doing so we think we have effectively stopped their legislation . . . . This is not a pristine area. It is not a area which is last in Alaska. We've got 11 million acres in that refuge already in Wilderness, out of 18 million acres. It's exactly like Prudhoe Bay, the same type of fauna, the same type of weather, same type of oil structures, same type of wildlife and we've proven in Prudhoe Bay that actually we enhanced wildlife, we enhanced the environment versus saying it was going to be a detrimental aspect.

Remember, I was through these arguments when, 'Oh, the oil line is going to destroy the state of Alaska' and 'The oil line is going to destroy all the Caribou.' And we spent 28 million dollars building walkways for the caribou to cross; they never used them, they crawl under. So the hysteria that they're using isn't valid . . . The environmental community that is supporting closing this area; they're not for the environment. They want to make us dependent upon the OPEC countries and they don't want the jobs availability in the state of Alaska.

Mr. Young, Alaska's supposed representative to Congress, "that great national asylum for the helpless," speaks very eloquently, proving that, given enough foot, a politician will always strangle himself.

The few environmental groups struggling to exist here in Alaska are hopping mad. We no longer have even the slightest representation in Juneau, or Washington. The hands that hold the future of this state are firmly implanted in the pockets of Big Oil. The word from Juneau is development at all costs.

Our wimpy new governor and state legislators fully support this madness, spouting nonsense about the need for more development (jobs) to support the sagging Alaska economy. They quote manufactured statistics to show how much the state is in debt, and how badly we need that severance money. Yet Alaska possesses a six billion dollar permanent fund, courtesy of the oil companies who have ripped up the state, which pays dividends of $550 per year to every resident of Alaska.

According to Tom Cook, representative for Chevron, oil and gas exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is "the single most important issue in Alaska since the passing of ANILCA." Mr. Cook also represents the Alaska Oil and Gas Association, and the Alaska Coalition for American Energy Security, a group of eight Alaska organizations which advocates the opening of ANWR to oil exploration. ANILCA — the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 — designated the 19 million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but also set aside the 1.5 million-acre Arctic Coastal Plain as a study area to be evaluated for oil and natural gas potential.

Mr. Cook recently talked to the Sitka Chamber of Commerce, which had recently sent a letter to the Alaska State Legislature urging them to open ANWR to oil development. Cook eloquently stated the position of the energy interests. Simply put, it goes like this:

We think there's a shitload of oil under the Coastal Plain, and we know we can make a hell of a lot of money from it. All you have to do is let us kick the caribou, fox, ptarmigan, geese and Inupiat Eskimos aside so we can poke holes in the ground all over the wilderness. Then we'll pump the stuff 160 miles over to Prudhoe Bay and dump it into the pipeline.

There being an Earth First! cap in the audience, Cook hastily added that "our experience in Prudhoe Bay has proven that energy development can exist side by side with wildlife." His assurances tickled the tympanum of at least one pair of skeptical ears.

This talk in Sitka, 1500 miles south of ANWR, points out the issues that are shaping the future of wilderness in Alaska. Alaskans (at least the white portion of the population) have suddenly found their geological horn of plenty running dry. Any possibility that oil money might keep flowing from the magic spigot sends these hardy sourdoughs dashing in their four-wheel drives to the oil fields.

Environmentalists have argued that in Arctic areas, systems of plants and animals live on the fragile edge of existence. It takes very little disturbance to create an enormous change in these slowly evolving ecosystems. However, the oil companies have learned the game well. Their Madison Avenue minions produce photographs showing contented Caribou, happy horned owls and rapturous raptors, all close to oil wells and pipelines.

It is no longer necessary for oil companies to waste energy (so to speak) defending their record of benign energy development. The public has been convinced by Reagan and his desperados that 1) we must develop all our energy resources to be safe from dependence on foreign oil, and 2) the oil companies are truthful about their plans to preserve the environment.

The real issue is not the willingness of oil companies to carry out their designs without hurting the environment. They have adroitly demonstrated that they can destroy wilderness without harming its occupants. The question central to the debate over development

of wild areas in Alaska and elsewhere is: Does wilderness have intrinsic value, which is forever nullified by any form of human development?

We must constantly ask this question of ourselves as well as Uncle ARCO and Congressman Oilpalm. Are we satisfied to have owls using a billion dollar pipeline to gain an evolutionary advantage over their competitors? Does it please us that Caribou use the pipeline road to gain a few precious inches of elevation to escape the hordes of Arctic mosquitos? Is the increase in the Prudhoe Bay Caribou herd from 6000 to 15,000 a positive effect of oil development? What happened to the predators that previously kept that population stable?

We must consider the effects on wildlife, ecosystems, our Earth and the Universe when a wilderness ceases to exist. What will the Universe be like when there is no place on Earth which has not fallen under the influence of man?

The Caribou seeking a secluded place to calve on the Coastal Plain will not understand the compromises made in Washington, DC. They will calve in a less protected place, affording less chance for their offspring to carry on the genetic message. The Caribou of Prudhoe Bay, enjoying their increased numbers, will starve, thanks to compromises made by their protectors. The prey species of the Snowy Owl will decrease in number, due the owl's increased ability to see — from high atop the pipeline. The owls will starve too.

There is only one hope for Alaska's remaining wild lands: you, the people of the US. In a recent assessment of interest in the Arctic Refuge conducted by the Fish and Game Department, 10,000 letters of comment were received; over 7000 supported development of ANWR, most of them from Alaska. That's the opposition we face.

We must fight back at every opportunity. Fight them at their own game, with letters to congresspersons, the (Acting) President, governors, mayors, council members, newspapers, your grandmother, anyone who will listen. Make them aware of the need for real wilderness. We must also fight them on *our* terms. Energy development is a risky, expensive business. Do your part to keep it that way! Guerrilla theatre, civil disobedience, creative field repairs — any action in defense of Mother Earth is justified. Plumb the depths of your conscience to find where you can best influence this precipitous plunge brought about by the dominant paradigm. We are the last hope, and Alaska is the last battle ground.

To oppose the development of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and to voice your support for preserving all of Alaska's remaining wild areas, write to your congresspersons, and to: Don Young, House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515; Governor Steve Cowper, POB A, Juneau, AK 99811; Ted Stevens and Frank Murkowski, both at Senate, Wash., DC 20510.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Photo by Robert Belous.

Tongass Timber Reform Act

News from SEACC

Bart Koehler, director of the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC), in March voiced support for the newly introduced Tongass Timber Reform Act. However, he stated that "the bill doesn't go far enough," and urged that the measure be strengthened by ending the 50-year contracts on the Tongass National Forest. The bill, HR1516, introduced by Representative Robert Mrazek (D-NY), had 43 cosponsors on March 10. In the Senate, William Proxmire introduced an identical bill, S708.

The Tongass Timber Reform Act would require annual appropriations of funds necessary to support timber management and resource conservation in our largest National Forest, rather than automatically handing over a minimum of $40 million annually to the Forest Service. Koehler noted that the Act would "pull the reins in on the Forest Service's blind pursuit of the 4.5 billion board foot per decade timber supply goal." Money would still be provided for a viable timber program on the Tongass via annual appropriations — the process that even the national defense budget undergoes. This bill will not cause a loss of timber industry jobs.

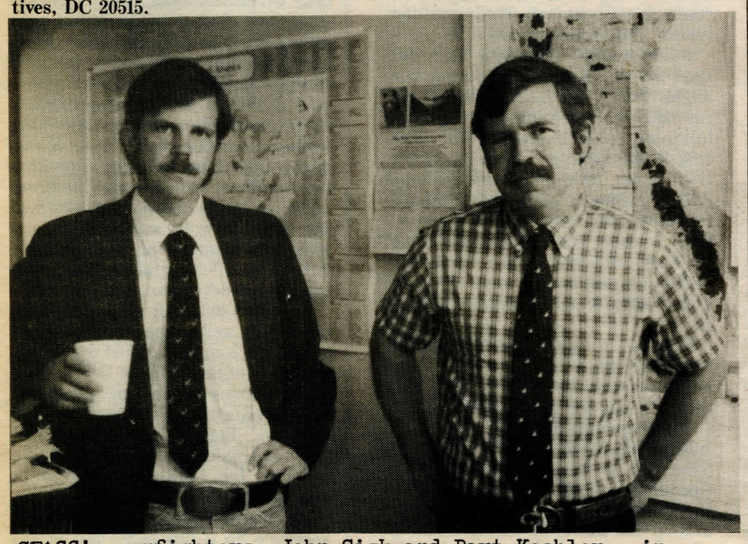
The legislation needs to be improved by replacing the two 50-year contracts with a system of competitive bidding. The remaining timber rights could be bought back for about $16 million, an action that would save much federal money.

The Tongass Timber Program has lost an average of $50 million per year since 1982. This loss is due to the fact that the pulp mills are paying only $2 per 1000 board feet of timber while it costs the Forest Service $150 per 1000 board feet to "manage" that timber. Koehler noted that only 12% of the agency's budget goes to fish, wildlife and recreation while virtually all the rest goes to the Tongass Timber Program. For example, the agency spends $24 million a year on roadbuilding programs but only $2 million dollars on fisheries. In contrast, guides and outfitters are required to pay 3% of their gross income to the Forest Service for their use of the Tongass, at very little cost to the agency.

According to Koehler, the pulp mills got a great deal in ANILCA (Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act) in that they were granted substitute timber volumes to compensate for lands in their contract areas that were designated as Wilderness. These substitute timber lands have higher quality timber and easier access than their earlier holdings.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Fourteen small Southeast communities, all of the region's commercial fishing groups, the United Fishermen of Alaska, and several Native village corporations are on record in opposition to the current Tongass timber program. Add your voice to theirs. Write letters in support of the Tongass Timber Reform Act, and a strengthening amendment to end the 50-year contracts, to your congresspersons: senators, Senate, Wash., DC 20510; representative, House of Representatives, DC 20515.



SEACC's gunfighters, John Sisk and Bart Koehler, in Washington, DC. Photo by Julie Koehler.

SIX RIVERS NATIONAL FOREST: Big Rivers, Big Trees, Bigfoot

by Bill Devall

Imagine a land where free flowing rivers cascade from high mountains through deep canyons and forests into the Pacific Ocean. Salmon and Steelhead, once found in abundance in these rivers, are slowly returning under the watchful eyes of conservationists.

Imagine a land which provided a rich life for dozens of Native American nations over the last 10,000 years; nations demonstrating that anarchy and bioregionalism are sustainable and successful forms of social organization.

Imagine a vast wilderness that is home for Cougar, Black Bear, Roosevelt Elk, elusive Wolverine and the legendary Sasquatch ("Bigfoot").

Imagine sacred mountains where shamans have made rituals for thousands of years for the renewal of the world.

Imagine a flora that includes Alaskan plants and California oak savannah as well as old growth forests of Douglas Fir and Coast Redwood.

The landscape I describe is not found in a fantasy novel but in Six Rivers National Forest in northwestern California. The Forest Service (FS) recently released a draft forest management plan for this forest. The preferred alternative in this plan will decrease the acres of de facto wilderness and degrade the pristine character of vast areas of the forest. In effect, the Forest Service and timber industry want to turn Six Rivers Forest into an industrial forest, to spray herbicides on the forest, allow up to 25% of the forest to be leased for mineral development and allow ORVs into most of the forest.

The Earth First! forest affinity group, however, proposes a bioregional wilderness concept for the forest which would create a string of pearls of Wilderness Areas from the headwaters of the Eel River in the south to the Kalmiopsis Wilderness on the north. Included in the Earth First! proposal is an enlarged Siskiyou Wilderness, where Earth First!ers fought against FS plans to build a timber harvest road through the sacred "high country." The EF! proposal will protect old growth forests and biological diversity; enhance fisheries; provide opportunities for recreation including hiking, cross-country skiing, recreational fishing, whitewater rafting and biking.

The EF! proposal calls for creation of up to 2000 jobs during the next 20 years, primarily for high school and college age youths. Workers of these jobs will provide labor to restore watersheds damaged by logging, repair hundreds of miles of trails which have been neglected by the FS during the last 25 years, and provide wilderness rangers for the enlarged Wilderness Areas.

The EF! proposal is a balanced, conservative proposal for the sustainable management of the forest. This proposal was not projected through the Forest Service computers using the FORPLAN model. FORPLAN is biased and inaccurate at the watershed level.

Chimney Rock in the Siskiyou high country threatened by the GO Road. Photo by Dave Van De Mark, courtesy of Northcoast Environmental Center.

Please write the Forest Service supporting the Earth First! proposal: Forest Supervisor, Six Rivers NF, 507 F St, Eureka, CA 95551. Comments must be received by May 25. If you have enough energy, list the following directives to the Forest Service in your letter:

1. Support the Earth First! bioregional wilderness proposal including an enlarged Siskiyou Wilderness; North Fork, Smith River Wilderness; South Fork, Trinity River Wilderness; and Trinity Summit Wilderness.
2. Support Congressional funding of 2000 seasonal jobs over the next 20 years to improve the health of the forest.
3. Prepare a full EIS on mineral leasing on the forest.
4. Terminate all grazing leases in all designated Wilderness Areas, inventoried roadless areas and proposed bioregional Wilderness Areas.
5. Provide at least 2200 acres for each pair of Spotted Owls on the forest.
6. Support establishment of a Sasquatch National Preserve in the Bluff Creek, Blue Creek area.
7. Declare the forest a Chemical Free Zone. No herbicides will be used for conifer release.
8. Recommend that all tributaries of the Smith River, including Hardscrabble Creek, be designated "Wild" under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
9. Decommission, within 10 years, all destructive roads on the forest. No new roads will be built into any inventoried roadless area or proposed bioregional Wilderness.
10. Disallow clearcutting on the forest. Rotation cycle will not be less than 150 years.
11. Return the forest to natural fire cycle management.
12. Utilize the Stewardship Timber Production proposal as outlined by the Earth First! proposal.

Labor Fights Coors in NJ

The continuing conflict between Coors and organized labor has spread to the Northeast. The New Jersey AFL-CIO and other federations within the Northeast Council of State AFL-CIO organizations are organizing a boycott of Adolph Coors Co., which began marketing its beers in New Jersey and New York in February. The trade union movement opposes Coors because of Coors' far-right anti-labor tradition. AFL-CIO has led a boycott of Coors since 1977, but Coors has nevertheless spread distribution of its beer into 47 states and is now the fifth largest brewer in the US. (*The Sunday Star-Ledger*, 2-15-87). Coors will soon complete construction of its eastern brewery in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. While opponents' accusations regarding the negative effects of the brewery on Shenandoah National Park and surrounding ecosystems will probably prove true, allegations that Coors brews its beer with mouse urine are suspect.

IPPL Protests Gorilla Capture

In trying to stop the international trade in rare primates, which along with poaching and habitat destruction threatens the many primate species with extinction, International Primate Protection League (IPPL, PO Drawer 766, Summerville, SC 29484) occasionally clashes with government or corporate institutions. In a case still not fully resolved which could set a dangerous precedent, IPPL was sued by a multinational corporation when IPPL sought to stop the business from establishing a lab in Africa in which experiments would be conducted on Chimpanzees. More recently, IPPL complained to Taiwan President Chiang and admonished the Taipei Zoo for ordering four baby Gorillas from Cameroon. Apparently, the Gorillas were bought by a Japanese trader, who sold them to a US trader, who charged the zoo $US127,000. IPPL explained to Taiwan's President that baby Gorillas are often caught by shooting their mothers and other adults that try to save the young, and that captive Gorillas often die of stress. IPPL chairwoman Shirley McGreal noted: "The cause of the continued gorilla slaughter is that some unethical zoos place orders for these wonderful animals." Tragically, three of the Gorillas died en route and the fourth was rejected by the zoo as too small, then accepted only after a private party purchased it for the zoo. IPPL asks concerned persons to send letters of protest to: President Chang Ching-Kuo, Presidential Palace, Taipei, Taiwan; and Kuan-Ping Wang, Director, Taipei Municipal Zoological Garden, Mucha, Taipei, Taiwan.

ON THE BRINK IN BELIZE

by Ed Grumbine

In the jungles of Belize, the tiny Central American country that has the most wilderness and fewest people, the jaguars are pacing the ground, restless. Black howler monkeys, as they stuff their mouths with yellow bottlebrush flower, sniff danger in the dry season breeze. The rare red brocket deer, *antelope* to the native Creole people, keep to the fringing shadows of cohune palm fronds as dusk settles.

All the bush seems to be waiting.

And living in the largest undeveloped piece of privately owned land in Central America, the wildlife will not have to wait long. For even as the bush waits, private and corporate investors are working to secure land for agribusiness projects that would replace tropical forests at a scale unprecedented in the history of the country.

While the 1985 purchase of almost 200,000 undeveloped acres by Coca-Cola Foods, USA, brought Belize into the international spotlight, Coke may be the least threatening of several consortiums eyeing Belize. Coke's plans for large citrus plantations to feed the ever-expanding American appetite for frozen orange juice are but the tip of an iceberg. And it is the melting of that iceberg under the warm subtropical sun which exposes numerous other projects. Cumulatively these would result in massive conversion of natural ecosystems. And this causes the monkey and jaguars of Belize to be wary.

The wild animals are not the only ones watching the melting iceberg. The people of Belize want jobs. They also want safe drinking water, sewage disposal systems, serviceable roads, accessible medical care, and other features of life that Americans take for granted.

The government of Belize (GOB) is struggling with a huge budget deficit. Like many Third World countries, Belize has an economy tied to export commodities subject to sharp price fluctuations. Developing export trade is considered essential to the health of the nation.

The issue of how to develop the huge block of private land is not a simple question of people against the jungle, jobs and technocrats versus the environment and conservationists. There are complicating factors:

In Belize questions such as "how many jaguars?" and "how much to preserve?" butt against an almost non-existent ecological data base. The definition of what is sustainable development is hopelessly tangled with the hallowed Western notion of the primacy of private property rights. If a person or corporation owns land they have the "right" to do with it as they please, regardless of ecological considerations. The international environmental community, coming to the defense of Belize's tropical forests, is accused of "an orchestrated campaign against the Government of Belize." (1) This raises the issue of the rights of a sovereign nation to chart its future free from meddling outside interests. Wealthy multinational corporations, seeking new resources to exploit, are central players along with the Belize Audubon Society (BAS), whose entire budget is less than the salary of the executive director of the Sierra Club.

With roots sunk deep in a colonial past and a future where jungles and jaguars may be but a memory, Belize is poised on the brink of fearfully rapid change, a ripe subtropical fruit waiting to be plucked.

Sorting through the pieces of this politically volatile puzzle, one's vision is dimmed by conflicting claims, backroom smoke, and information gaps deep as a black water river.

The snarl of a chainsaw, a Maya plaza sunk deep in the bush, and the disappearing tail of a *red tiger* sharpened my senses as I threaded this intricate maze.

Worry is like a rocking chair/ it takes you/ back and forth but/ doesn't take you/ anywhere./ So why worry?

— anonymous, Anita's Fun Spot.

I entered the maze somewhere in the middle. I came to Belize in February, 1987, worried about what I already knew concerning the purchase of a large chunk of the country by Barry Bowen, probably the wealthiest man in Belize; Walter Mischer and Paul Howell, two Texas millionaires; and Coca-Cola Foods.

Pine savannah on road to Hillbank.

In 1982, Bowen bought 13% of the entire country, 700,000 acres of Belize Estates and Produce Company (BEC) property. Bowen's dream was to clear-cut the bush to feed the maw of a new, government-sponsored wood-burning power plant. Once cleared the land would be used for cattle and agribusiness. However, the government hesitated and Bowen began to have difficulty servicing the loan he had taken to finance his purchase. Bowen then went to Coke and proposed that they purchase part of his holding for a large citrus project.

Coke, through their Minute Maid subsidiary, controls 25% of the American frozen orange juice market. Even with 22,000 acres of orange trees in Florida, Coke had been forced by rising demand to import increasing amounts of concentrate from Brazil, the world's leading exporter. And with killing frosts in six of the last eleven years in Florida, the company needed a frost-free hedge against rising costs.

Coke found it in the Hillbank area of northern Belize. In 1985, Bowen successfully wooed Coke into purchasing 196,000 acres. The Texans (Mischer and Howell) bought another 200,000 plus acres in the Yalbac Hills from Bowen, while Bowen retained 240,000 acres around Gallon Jug in the western part of the area (see map).

Coke was encouraged not only by the frost-free climate but by the political climate as well. President Reagan and the US Congress had passed the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) in 1983. The act was designed to promote economic growth in the developing countries ringing the Caribbean, "whose severe economic problems threaten the political stability of the region."(2) The main feature of the initiative was to grant duty-free access to US markets through 1995.

With independence from Britain achieved in 1981, Belize was a stable democracy with English as the official language. Political risks were low. And Belize had virtually no effectively enforced environmental regulations. Coke could also save $25-50 million a year in shipping costs because of shorter transport distances.

"A vast (tropical) forest with 90-foot high trees and some of the finest wildlife in Central America is about to become the focus of an exciting agribusiness venture," (3) trumpeted the *Financial Times* of London as Coke announced its initial plans in 1985.

At completion in five to seven years, the project could include the replacement of 25,000 acres of bush with orange trees, with an additional 5000 acres of new roads and support facilities. Development would depend upon the results of a series of soil tests and small-scale test plantings. In the classic jargon of business-as-the-bottom-line, "test plots and concentrate price movements (would) determine the phased planting of the main acreage."(4)

The economic impact on Belize would be substantial. In full swing, the project would pump about $40 million a year into the now-languishing economy, a full 30% of the current Gross Domestic Product.(5)

Only vague mention was made, at the beginning, of plans to do an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The stage seemed set for the destruction of yet another piece of the rapidly unravelling tropical forest fabric.

But Coke began to experience difficulties on a number of fronts. Without political risk insurance against nationalization, Coke could not proceed. With private companies demanding exorbitant premiums, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), a federally funded agency, came to the rescue. However, when the Florida citrus industry, concerned about domestic economic effects, successfully lobbied Senator Lawton Chiles (D-FL) to reverse the OPIC decision, Coke was back at square one.

The growth cycle of orange trees combined with the absence of insurance to further take out the fizz. With little hope of planting before 1989 and orange trees needing seven to eight years to reach maturity, fruit production could not even begin until after the juicy terms of CBI had expired.

While duty-free conditions on the import end were limited by Congressional deadline, negotiations with the government of Belize (GOB) over export concessions moved slowly. Slow progress was certainly not due to Belizean laws. "If you are serious about investing, Belize is the place. Full government cooperation and more . . ." announces the cover of the Belize Investment Code.(6) By law, foreign investors upon submitting details of an intended project can be granted tax holidays of up to 15 years, duty-free importation of all equipment and raw materials, and guaranteed freedom to repatriate all earnings. And though the GOB reserves the right to attach environmental stipulations to any concessions agreement, "there is no systematic environmental review" during this process.(7)

An immediate stumbling block for Coke was how its potential concessions might effect the booming Belizean citrus industry. Export income from citrus had increased an impressive 58% since 1982.(8) But acreage in oranges would triple under Coke's plan, profoundly affecting members of Belize's National Citrus Growers Association. Growers, 90% of whom are farmers cultivating less than four acres, could be hard-pressed to compete with a large company armed with a lenient package of concessions.(9)

Wrapped in negotiations on these issues, Coke was little prepared for what happened next. In January, 1987, concerned about the potential impacts of Coke's proposals, Friends of the Earth International fired a broadside press release to the worldwide conservation community. FOE accused Coke of threatening wildlife habitat and misleading the public by falsely claiming to be working closely with the Belize Audubon Society. Finally, since the government was not requiring an EIA, FOE condemned Coke for having no firm plan to conduct one.

"The first claim, while perhaps technically true depending on how one defines 'rainforest' . . ." — FOE letter to Coke, 19 January 1987

Picking off hundreds of seed ticks, whose long-lasting bites are completely out of proportion to their infinitesimally small size, challenges one's romantic notions of rainforest. One finds the ticks during the dry season throughout Belize wherever cattle graze the bush. You will also encounter ticks in the forests of Hillbank-Gallon Jug wherever high populations of peccary and tapir occur.

What you will not find is primary rainforest. Though the vegetation of the former BEC lands is diverse, soils, amount of precipitation and a pronounced dry season combine to preclude the development of "true" rainforest. The small part of Coke's holdings with potential for citrus is a mixture of deciduous seasonal forest (the tropical dry forest of Holdrige),(10) pine-savannah, cohune palm forest, high marsh forest, and various types of swamp-marsh vegetation. The bush canopy is rather low, no more than 70 feet high.

Of course, the classification of the forests is not an issue to the jaguars and keel-billed toucans who dwell in them.

The only way to travel to Hillbank and farther west, to Gallon Jug on Bowen's land, is by landrover following the old narrow gauge logging railroad right-of-way. In early February several companions and I explored the area in an attempt to ground-truth the grapevine of rumors twining about the doings of Coke, Bowen and the Texans. We also wanted to find out, even if only superficially, what species lived there.

We started from the eastern edge of Coke's land near Spanish Creek. The country is predominately pine-savannah, or *pine ridge*. (In Belize, 'ridge' refers to vegetation, not landform; it is roughly synonymous with 'plant community.') Fire, both lightning and human caused, is an important factor in these open forests. Hunters occasionally set fires to encourage new growth, which attracts game.

We see grey fox and Montezuma oropendulas, a colonial bird known for its habit of spearing oranges to suck out the juice. Large, raucous flocks of yellow-headed parrots cruise the canopy. This beautiful bird is the best-talking New World species and the object of illegal capture. In Belize its population is at risk.(11)

"You Americans study everything, you very sensible and smart," remarks Jose our driver and guide, as he grabs a steel surveyors tape bouncing on the floor of the landrover. "I brought this along, help to measure."

We did not need a tape to determine that the orange trees Bowen had planted by the road were doing poorly. Before he sold land to Coke, Bowen planted a small test plot of citrus. Although heavily fertilized at first, the scraggly trees were now bedecked with vines in the overgrown clearing. Bowen also planted eucalyptus and melina, two quick growing, non-native hardwoods. These trees would have fed the power plant Bowen first envisioned.

We did not need a tape to measure large old growth trees, either. Virtually every acre of the BEC lands had been selectively logged by the 1970s. From earliest white settlement in the mid-17th century through the 1950s the economy of Belize was based on timber exploitation. The primary hardwoods, mahogany, cedar, and Santa Maria, were cut first. Later secondary hardwoods, a mix of species of lesser value, were cut. Since at most 3% of the trees on a given acre were cut, and lacking the entangling vines of rainforests, the effect on the ecosystem was usually not devastating.

For over 100 years BEC ruled the country as well as the economy. At its zenith the company owned over a million acres of land, 20% of Belize. BEC cut the most accessible mahogany first and moved operations inland along river corridors. Before the advent of railroads and chainsaws, activities were dictated by the climate. Work went on around the clock in the dry season. "Haulage must have presented a weird spectacle for it was performed mainly at night owing to the cooler working

WORLD RAINFOREST REPORT

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Borneo Blockade: *A Struggle For Life*

by Madeleine Dunphy

The Penans have been living a nomadic way of life in the rainforests of Sarawak, a part of Borneo, for centuries. They hunt wild game with their hand-made wooden blowpipes and poisonous darts. The Penans obtain sago, their staple food, from wild palms. Herbs for medicine, damar, gaharu, and dyeing materials are other substances which they gather. The Penan people have a distinct language and culture and their population totals approximately 5,000.

The Penan people's livelihood is currently threatened by the logging industry. Three principal companies have been deforesting the rainforests of the Sungai Tutoh and Sungai Limbang region, a region traditionally claimed by the Penan as their ancestral hunting and living grounds. Roads are being constructed and timber is being removed without the consent or even knowledge of the majority of the Penan people. Many life forms are threatened, and almost all of the areas being logged are situated near watersheds. If the logging is permitted to continue, occurrence of massive floods, pollution of water resources, and the destruction of species is inevitable.

We have lived here before any of you outsiders came. Our life was not easy but we lived it in content.

A young Penan squats in the quiet of the jungle floor.

In a recent petition sent to the government the Penan people stated, "The Forest is our livelihood. We have lived here before any of you outsiders came. We fished in clean rivers and hunted in the jungle. We made our sago meat and ate fruit of trees. Our life was not easy but we lived it in content. Now the logging companies turn rivers into muddy streams and the jungle into devastation. The fish cannot survive in dirty rivers and wild animals will not live in devastated forests."

We are a peace-loving people, but when our very lives are in danger, we will fight back.

All efforts of the Penan to have the Tutoh and Limbang Rivers region made into a Forest Reserve have failed. Petitions to the government were left unanswered. Letters to the logging companies have had no positive response. Instead of trying to find a solution to this problem, these official bodies have ignored, misled, lied to, and even threatened the Penan people to dissuade them from demanding their rights. In the petition to the government, the Penan people stated, "If you decide not to heed our request, we will protect our livelihood. We are a peace-loving people, but when our very lives are in danger, we will fight back." Because their rights have not been protected, the Penan people have now resorted to starting a blockade against the logging companies.

The Penan people need all the help they can get. Please write a respectful letter to the people below and ask that all logging activites in the Ulu Limbang/Ula Tutoh area be stopped, and that the Penan be guaranteed rights to follow their traditional ways of life. Send copies of your letters to the Rainforest Action Network.

YAB Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohammed
Prime Minister of Malaysia
Prime Minister's Department KUALA LUMPUR

YAB Datuk Patinggi Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud
Chief Minister of Sarawak, and Minister of Resource Planning
Chief Minister's Office
Petra Jaya
Kuching SARAWAK

More information on the Penan people in the book reviews.

Philippines' Colonial Past Contributes to Deforestation

by Delfin J. Ganapin Jr.

Editor's Note:Tropical Deforestation in the Philippines was one of the subjects covered at the *Regional Conference on Forest Resources Crisis in the Third World* in Malaysia. Below is an excerpt from Delfin J. Ganapin Jr.'s paper *Forest Resources and Timber Trade in the Philippines.*

Looking back to the colonial past of the Philippines it can be seen how the presence of Spain and the United States built the foundation for an elitist society, concentrated in a group of families holding 3% of the wealth and power, within the existing social structure of the Philippines. The colonial powers of that time found it useful to have the help of these upper class families to control the majority of the populace.

Eventually the economic and political power of the elite families accumulated, and when independence was finally granted, they were in the best position to take control of the country. In Philippine history, the political upheavals that have occurred thus far have not come from a change in leadership between different social strata, as in the majority of the poor taking from the wealthy few, but rather a sort of rotation for power between members of the families.

The authoritarian government of Marcos, an example from the upper class families, provides proof for the saying: *power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely.* During the Marcos regime, logging became one of the most destructive forces of Philippine deforestation. Marcos's cronies (who happened to be loggers) were able to move about freely with impunity. Permits and licenses were given as political favors. Due to connections, these cronies were able to escape payment of almost $1.5 million in license fees since 1975.

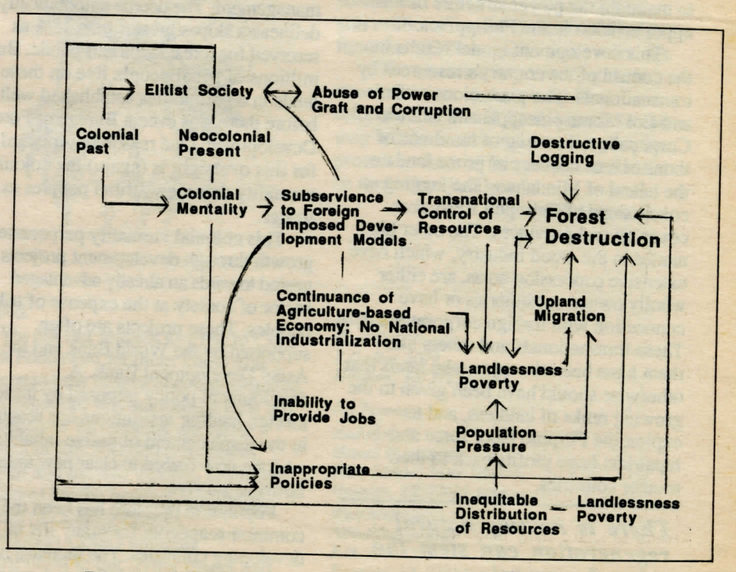
The Bureau of Forest Development also fell victim to graft and corruption under the Marcos regime. This department was almost 100% corrupt. With this information in mind the question can be answered, why were the records from Japan and Korea shown to have bought 6,084,239 cubic meters of Philippine logs from 1979 to the first six months of 1980, while the Philippine log export record merely shows an authorized shipment of 3,580,000 cubic meters for the same period? Rampant smuggling in this case is cause for tremendous economic loss to the Philippines.

Another cause for tropical deforestation is the colonial mentality, which caters to uncritical acceptance of ideas from colonial and former colonial masters. Because the colonial mentality is entrenched among the elite families who went on to become the decision-makers and educators, this mentality has been carried into the present and can still be observed in how history books are written and in how various courses are taught. This mentality also permeates the Filipino majority. The College of Forestry at the University of the Philippinnes, Los Banos, the premier institution in forestry in the Philippines, for example, started with a logging orientation and an outlook that sees tropical forests as an agricultural crop (the first teachers were American and those who followed were U.S.-educated).

During the Marcos regime, logging became one the most destructive forces of Philippine deforestation.

Tied into the colonial mentality are the foreign-imposed development models. These models help emphasize private capital accumulation,

continued on page 2 **Philippines**



Rainforest Information Centre
P.O. Box 368
Lismore N.S.W. 2480, Australia

Sahabat Alam Malaysia
37 Lorong Birch
10250 Pulau Penang, Malaysia

Friends of the Earth –U.K.
377 City Road
London EC V1 NA, England

Rainforest Action Network
300 Broadway, Suite 28
San Francisco, CA 94133 USA

news and noteworthy . . . .

World Bank Funding: Exploitation of Protected Forests in Sri Lanka

Popline, The Population Institute's newsletter (Nov. '86), recently exposed a plan by the Sri Lankan government to further deforest its own land by using funds from the World Bank and the Finnish government. Under this plan, selective felling in protected forests, some of them primeval jungles, will be exploited to meet the growing demands of the population for fuelwood and timber.

Ranjan Fernando, a member of the Wildlife and Nature Protection Society of Sri Lanka, warns, "Everywhere in the world where there has been selective felling, the devastation was total." He maintained the proposal is not in keeping with the government's forestry policies, and his group is "unreservedly objecting."

Tropical Rainforest Plants Needed in Cancer-fighting Drug Research

In a *New York Times* article entitled "Quest for Cancer Drugs: U.S. Devises Major New Strategy", Erik Eckholm reported decidedly important news regarding rainforests.

Numerous important cancer drugs were originally derived from natural sources. Scientists hope that the renewed campaign to collect natural compounds, combined with the new screening method (highlighted in the above mentioned article), will yield many more useful drugs.

Over the next five years, botanists from the New York Botanical Garden and two other groups will supply the Cancer Institute with tens of thousands of plant specimens from tropical forests, often after consulting with tribal healers about medicinal plants.

Puppets Defend Hawaii's Tropical Rainforests

Puppets on the Path, an environmental entertainment troupe, has educated thousands of children and adults about the incredible diversity and fragile nature of the Hawaiian tropical rainforests.

The puppets express in simple terms and original songs the stories of the native plants and animals, the invasion of exotic species, and the on-going cycles of biological and geological evolution.

The troupe is in the process of producing video tapes and audio cassette/activity book packages in order to reach a wider audience. They have formed *Fronds of the Forest Fan Club* to help underwrite their production costs.

The troupe is planning a tour of the Mainland in 1987. For more information, contact:

Puppets on the Path
P.O. Box 810
Volcano, HI 96785 USA

One Hamburger Worth 6 Meters^2 of Rainforest??

An editorial in the Interciencia (Sept.-Oct. '86) calculated the amount of rainforest traded to produce a dubious economic commodity—the hamburger.

Its conclusion: Mother Earth loses about half a ton of forest for every hamburger produced. That translates to approximately 6 meters^2 of rainforest per burger.

The life represented in 6 meters^2 of rainforest is more than likely to include the following: a vigorous, 60-feet-tall tree; about 50 saplings and seedlings comprising 20-30 different species, several of which may be quite rare and scarcely distributed; thousands of insects comprising more than one hundred species, of which several would be unknown to science; an almost unimaginable diversity and abundance of mosses, fungi, and microorganisms associated with leaf surfaces, bark, roots, and the soil; and dozens of bird, reptile, and mammal species that pass through and utilize this patch of forest on a regular basis. *All this in 6 meters^2 (a garden patch) of rainforest.*

Are not rainforests more valuable in their natural state —as sources of timber, raw materials and new food and drug plants— than as cheap suppliers of ephemeral hamburgers?

Oil Development Threatens Ecuador's Yasuni National Park

Within the past ten years, the destructuon of Ecuador's rainforests in the upper Amazon basin has proceeded at an incredible rate. The factor largely responsible for this accelerated destruction has been the development activities of a number of oil drilling operations, agricultural colonization projects, and logging operations.

Yasuni National Park (set aside in 1979 as a *legally protected* national park of Ecuador), an area of 750,000 hectares of primary rainforest in the Napo province of Eastern Ecuador, is in the immediate area of a recently discovered large oil deposit. Drilling operations are scheduled to begin close to the national park boundaries in mid-1987 by Conaco, an American oil company.

The proposed drilling site, which is already in the early stages of construction, is on a tributary of the Tiputini River, which flows directly into the interior of the Yasuni National Park. Drilling chemicals and petroleum products will be discharged into the river, and the resulting water pollution will cause irrevocable damage to the river and the animals dependent upon it.

Although wildlife protection laws for Yasuni National Park exist, their enforcement has been obstructed by the remoteness of the region and the lack of funds and personnel available for park management.

You can help prevent this destruction of Yasuni National Park by writing a letter to the Vice President of Conaco Inc. and to the Director of the Yasuni National Park stressing your concern regarding the destructive effect of oil drilling so near the Yasuni National Park. —Evan Frost

Conaco Inc.
Warren L. Jensen, Vice President
1007 Market St
Wilmington, Delaware 19898 USA

Director de Yasuni Parque Nacional
Departamento de Areas Naturales
y Vida Silerstre,
Direccion General de Desarrillo Forestal,
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganaderia,
Avi. Amazon y Eloy Alfaro, Quito,
Ecuador

Camel Adventure Destroys Third World Forests

The Consumers' Association of Penang is calling for a boycott of all R. J. Reynolds products, including the Nabisco label, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Del Monte foods, in protest against the Camel Adventure.

Since 1980, R. J. Reynolds Corporation has organized adventures exploiting pristine forests of Third World countries to promote their Camel cigarettes.

The battle of man and machine against nature, as stated in Camel cigarette ads, has destroyed Third World forests in the Amazon, Sumatra, Papua, New Guinea, Zaire, Brazil, Borneo, and Northern Australia from 1980-1986 respectively. And now, in 1987, the adventure is slated for the wilderness of Madagascar. For more information contact: *Consumers' Association of Penang*
87, Jalan Cantonment
Pulau Penang, Malaysia

from page 1

Philippines

transformation of natural resources into exportable commodites for foreign exchange, maintenance of a Westernized lifestyle (the Philippines' luxury imports amount to more than $1 billion a year), agricultural development oriented to cash crops for export, social forestry programs geared not to help, but to avoid genuine reform, development of resources through foreign investment, the use of imported technology and capital, and the acceptance of a philosophy that emphasizes the exploitation and subjugation of nature. This type of role model is elite-creating — thus helping to maintain the power structure of the upper echelon in the Philippines.

This development model results in the control of the country's resources by transnationals. The plantations of Dole and Del Monte pineapple and Guthrie Corp. palm oil consist of hundreds of thousands of hectares of prime land on the island of Mindanao. The logging concessions of Cellophil Resources cover several provinces. The other big names in the wood industry, which have extensive concession areas, are either wholly owned subsidiaries or have connection with foreign corporations. These transnationals and others like them have been shown to take lands that otherwise should have been given to the growing ranks of landless, and to exploit the Filipino labor force and repatriate huge profits back to their mother countries.

There is no way natural regeneration can stem the tide of worsening deforestation.

The subservience of the country to foreign-imposed development models has also made it easy prey to the economic schemes of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and other funding institutions which have always pushed for a nonindustrialization policy in the Philippines. Dependence on expensive imports of finished products from developed countries has been the reason for a continuing trade deficit and the need to borrow more from these banking institutions. A vicious cycle results: increasing indebtedness consequently leads to more economic dictation from the creditor banks.

Policy experts agree that the policies presently enforced are inappropriate. An example is Presidential Decree #705, which governs forest resource management. The decree automatically delineates slopes greater than 18% as reserved for forest lands and public. But millions of tribal people live on these lands in communities established well before there was even a Bureau of Forest Development. One reason put forward for this oversight is (again) the colonial mentality that views tribal peoples as *savage*.

This colonial mentality perpetuates growth through development projects geared towards an already advantaged sector of society at the expense of tribal peoples. These projects are often supported by the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. A development policy imposed by these foreign lending institutions has resulted in the displacement of native inhabitants who are now forced to clear new upland farms to survive.

Population pressure has been the common scapegoat for many ills in developing countries. The increase in the Philippines' population is a problem which will have a direct impact on forest destruction. The rate of population increase in the Phillippines is such that it will increase by 50% in the next 18 years. The population is now estimated at 56 million and by the year 2000, will be an alarming 111 million.

It should also be noted that poverty leads to over-population. The best way to make couples plan their families is not to distribute condoms and birth control pills but to provide livelihoods allowing for a life of dignity.

Despite the increase in population it must be emphasized that in many situations, existing resources would have sufficed had there been an equitable distribution of these resources.

Poverty leads to over-population. The best way to make couples plan their families is not to distribute condoms and birth control pills but to provide livelihoods allowing for a life of dignity.

On the island of Palawan, for example, wide expanses of lowlands sit idle while steep mountainsides are being cleared by migrants. Upon investigation it was discovered that the lowland areas are either titled or claimed by absentee landlords. Population pressure on the uplands in this case is artificial, caused by inequitable distribution of available resources.

Poverty in this analysis is seen as a major factor leading to environmental destruction. People are forced to destroy the forest in their desperate attempt to survive. This same poverty put in national context is the reason for a lack of funding support for forest protection programs, facilities, trained manpower, research programs, and so forth. Poverty

A vicious cycle: increasing indebtedness consequently leads to more economic dictation from the creditor banks.

is not an accident, but the product of a socio-economic and political system inherent in the structure of elite families and a continued colonial mentality.

Facing the incredible destruction that has already been done and the increasing pressure to push on with development projects at the expense of forests, there is no way natural regeneration can stem the tide of worsening deforestation. There must be a deliberate and committed effort for forest protection and reforestation, not only on the part of forestry officials but of the whole citizenry, which is the ultimate source of political will.

The complexities of the issues involved necessitates a historical analysis, a holistic approach, long term solutions and continuous vigilance. No less than a united action by citizens at the local and international levels is needed to deal with the problem of tropical deforestation in the Philippines and throughout the world. Perhaps the situation can best be summarized this way: We need the forest. But the forest needs us, too.

Subscriptions:
$20.00 for a one year subscription of the World Rainforest Report, which can be mailed to:

Rainforest Action Network
300 Broadway, Suite 28
San Francisco, CA 94133 USA

Defenders of Wildlife Sue to Save Endangered Species Overseas

On June 3, 1986 the Fish and Wildlife service published a new rule reducing the scope of the consultation requirement to include only agency actions within the United States, its territorial waters, and the outer continental shelf.

The 1973 enactment of the Endangered Species Act originally required all federal agencies to consult with the Secretary of the Interior about U.S. government actions that might affect endangered or threatened wildlife species in other countries.

The effect of the rule change is that the federal government need no longer consider the impact of its actions on endangered and threatened species in foreign countries.

Defenders of Wildlife filed suit in a Minneapolis U.S. District Court on August 27, 1986. The lawsuit seeks to have the new regulation overturned and the old requirement enforced. A decision on the lawsuit is expected within the next few months.

Wildlife species affected by development projects in foreign countries that involve U.S. agencies include:

• The Chinese alligator. Destruction of the endangered Chinese alligator's habitat along the Yangtze River may occur if the proposed Three Gorges Dam is built. The Bureau of Reclamation is assisting in this project.

• The jaguar. Highway construction as part of a colonization project in Brazil's Amazon Basin, aided by the World Bank and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will probably destroy hundreds of thousands of acres of the endangered jaguar's habitat.

International Tropical Timber Organization Update

Countries involved in the tropical timber trade have negotiated an international commodity agreement to regulate the industry. This agreement formed the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) with headquarters in Yokohama, Japan.

ITTO has conservation as one of its major objectives. In March of this year several countries met to deal primarily with administrative tasks involved in setting up the new organization. Nongovernmental conservation organizations attended and requested official observer status to monitor and assist ITTO's operations. This was eventually granted by ITTO.

Another issue at hand was the survival of ITTO. Most governments had not contributed their dues. The conservation groups in attendance believe so strongly in giving ITTO a chance to help solve its problems, that over US $13,000 was contributed. This prompted Switzerland and Holland to give over one and a half million US dollars to the project fund also.

Several groups including FOE-UK, TERRA, Rainforest Information Centre, and WWF International worked day and night at the meetings to promote conservation and elicit media attention.

One specific request from the meeting was that ITTO draft a definition of *sustainable management* in tropical forests for the next meeting in late November, 1987. —Randall Hayes

Brazilian Indians Running Out of Time

by Maria Souza

The massacre of indigenous populations has not ended yet! According to Ailton Krenak, national coordinator of UNI (Union of Indigenous Nations of Brazil, representing 120 nations), out of 900 tribes from the17th century, only 170 remain today. Between 1920 and 1986, 40 indigenous groups were driven to extinction.

Today, with the introduction of large development projects in the Amazon rainforest region where 70% of the Brazilian Indians live (also where most of the South American tribes are located) native lands have been constantly invaded and tribes *resettled* in regions that are *out of the way of progress*. As mineral resources and other profitable commodities were being discovered in indigenous territories, large corporations petitioned to access them, regardless of the fact that local populations would have to be displaced.

UNI and various other support groups have been pleading with the government to halt such activities and deny corporate petitions. However, the economic powers of the state, private, and multinational corporations have managed to infiltrate 77 of the 302 indigenous areas in the Amazon region.

As a means to combat this exploitation, the leaders of the indigenous people realize they must unite and claim their right to preserve their cultures and land. The Indians demand the demarcation of all their territories that should have been made official in 1978 by FUNAI (the government agency in charge of Indian affairs). Today only one third of these areas have been demarcated. The UNI has also worked to ally itself with other national and international support groups in an attempt to pressure the Brazilian government to acknowledge the country's diversity of languages and cultures.

The Brazilian Indians' legal status under the present Constitution presents them with an additional challenge. A new constitution is being written right now, but under the present constitution the indigenous population has been denied full citizenship. Its members are considered *relatively capable*, which compares to the legal status of minors. (Only through acculturation and integration into the dominant society are these people allowed to speak for themselves and take legal action on their own behalf.) Because of this legality and despite their efforts, the Indians have not been able to directly participate in the writing of the new constitution.

Resources are scarce.That makes staffing of the six UNI regional offices difficult. Funds are also needed in order to maintain communication with remote tribes of the region and develop educational campaigns to prevent more genocide.

Please send your contributions for the Union of Indigenous Nations to:

Rainforest Action Network
300 Broadway, Suite 28
San Francisco, CA 94133 USA

Coke Comes Around: It's the Real Thing

by Denise Voelker

Like Ebenezer Scrooge following a night on the town with the ghosts of Christmas past, Coca Cola Foods could be undergoing an unprecedented character transformation.

Belize, Central America's newest country, represents one of the most pristine areas of this tropical region and some of the last-stand habitat in a rapidly deteriorating Central America for many rare and endangered species. Populations of howler monkeys, ocelots, otters, manatees, tapirs, pumas, harpy eagles and the densest remaining jaguar population on the planet still thrive in the emerald forests of Belize.

But lush forests and endangered species are not enough to fill the coffers of an emerging nation. Belize suffers from the same growing pains that plague most developing countries: an overwhelming national debt, high unemployment, and a large percentage of arable land owned by foreign interests Add to these the popular demand for a higher standard of living and an influx of refugees from war-torn Central America. Now you have a situation which could provide a four-lane highway for runaway growth; the kind of growth motivated by profit and short-term gains, rather than policies that achieve long-term, environmentally sustainable development and equitable land reform.

In 1985 13% of Belize, formerly British Honduras, was sold to a partnership which included Coca Cola Foods, Barry Bowen of Belize Estate and Produce Company, and two Houston businessmen. This parcel of 700,000 acres was divided roughly three ways.

Bowen hasn't stated yet what he plans to do with his parcel of prime rainforest and the Houstonians, Walt Mischer and Paul Howell have formed a new cattle company on their lands. Coca Cola Foods, with their subsidiary Minute Maid Orange Juice, owns 196,000 acres. Coke had originally purchased the acreage of mixed-pine savanna and sub-tropical moist forest to grow oranges.

Following an education campaign launched by *Friends of the Earth –U.K.*, and the *Rainforest Action Network*, Coca Cola Foods received a barrage of unsolicited publicity: sit-ins in German Coke bottling plants, demonstrations in Stockholm, letter-writing blitzes from the U.S. — all pointing out that Coke's benevolent public image just possibly *wasn't* the *real thing*. Coke was horrified.

Representatives from Coke met with conservationists in Belize and the U.S. The end result of those meetings was Coke's offer to change their development plans and dramatically downscale them to reserve a significant portion of rainforest!

Is Coke about to join the *rainforest generation*?

To date, Coke has begun the process leading to a long awaited environmental impact report to be done on their Belize holdings. Not only has Coke agreed to hire a company recommended by the conservation community to do the report, they claim they will honor whatever recommendations the report makes before they begin any planting.

The agricultural proposal from Coke stresses integrated pest management and biological controls using only minimal chemical inputs. To this end we challenge Coke to take their desire to protect and enhance the environment one step further: to use only safe, sustainable agricultural methods and to develop these farming methods as a model for agriculture throughout the tropics.

The creation of a large preserve on the unused portions of Coke's lands must be facilitated with the development of a parks management program.This means employment opportunities for Belizeans —something that is critically needed.

We ask our readers to write to Coca Cola Foods and let them know you understand the historical consequence of their decision. We must enlist their aid in somehow influencing the other owners of this 700,000 acre parcel, Bowen and the two Texans, to set up preserves for the tropical rainforests instead of creating deserts.

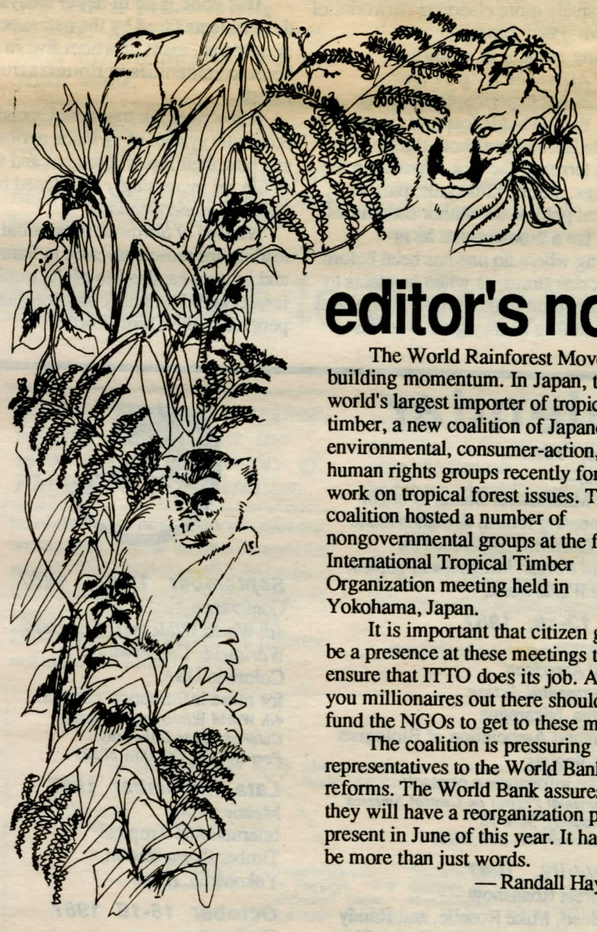
Support Coke's amazing contribution to our living planet and urge them to continue their move from *soft drink* to *soft path*.

Michele Beale
Coca Cola Foods
P.O. Box 2079
Houston, TX 77251 USA

the Texans

Paul Howell
Howell Petroleum
1010 Lamar, Suite 1800
Houston, TX 77002 USA

Walt Mischer
Allied Bancshares
P.O. Box 1515
Houston, TX 77251



editor's note

The World Rainforest Movement is building momentum. In Japan, the world's largest importer of tropical timber, a new coalition of Japanese environmental, consumer-action, and human rights groups recently formed to work on tropical forest issues. The coalition hosted a number of nongovernmental groups at the first International Tropical Timber Organization meeting held in Yokohama, Japan.

It is important that citizen groups be a presence at these meetings to ensure that ITTO does its job. All of you millionaires out there should help fund the NGOs to get to these meetings.

The coalition is pressuring their representatives to the World Bank for reforms. The World Bank assures us that they will have a reorganization plan to present in June of this year. It had better be more than just words.

— Randall Hayes

book reviews

Life Above The Jungle Floor

- *by Donald Perry*
- Simon and Shuster
  1230 Ave.of the Americas
  New York, NY, 10020 USA
  1986

Before the arboreal fauna of tropical rainforests can be fully inventoried, let alone studied, people must devise a means of getting into and out of treetops safely. Tropical trees aren't like the familiar oaks and maples of temperate forests. First of all, many of them grow taller: 150-foot specimens are common. The first 60 to 80 feet of trunk may be branchless, but this does not mean that it is bare. Trunks are frequently sheathed in a thick mass of vegetation —climbing vines, descending roots, orchids, ferns, and moss— not to mention wasp nests, ant nests, snakes, scorpions, and other sur prises. Trees can be climbed using spurs and a safety belt. But it is slow, dangerous, messy work that can be bad for the health of both the tree and the climber.

Mr. Perry, a biologist who has written up his discoveries in various popular magazines, borrowed his exploratory techniques from rock climbing. He strings ropes over lower branches by first shooting arrows into the tree canopy with a crossbow. Once the climbing line is in place, he uses ascenders. These are simple devices used in pairs, one locking onto the rope and holding the climber's foot while the other ascender is raised. Using progressively more elaborate networks of ropes, Mr. Perry has achieved a surprising amount of mobility.

Life Above the Jungle Floor chronicles his experiences climbing trees in the lowlands forest of Costa Rica. He has captured both the wonder and the terror of the task. Up among the tree frogs, sloths, kinkajous, parrots, and great potoos, the author sometimes forgets for a moment that he is venturing where no one has been before. But at other times, as when he elects to spend the night in the jungle canopy and a storm fells a nearby giant tree, his position is brought home to him. The only way for the reader to get a better seat would be for Mr. Perry to winch the armchair and its occupant into the canopy alongside him.

There may come a time when the human climber moving through the treetops will be no more unusual than a scuba diver swimming through a coral reef is today. Donald Perry, whose goal is to promote canopy exploration all around the world, may someday be remembered as the Jacques Cousteau of the tropical forest. If the present report lacks anything, it is a fuller explanation of what investigations can be conducted up in the trees. But future books will no doubt remedy this. In a first-time visitor to the canopy of a tropical forest, one should always excuse a bit of overenthusiasm about the scenery. Think of it as rapture of the heights.

—Roger B. Swain

Natives of Sarawak, Survival in Borneo's Vanishing Forests

- *by Evelyne Hong*
- Institut Masyarakat
  87 Cantonment Road
  10250 Penang, Malaysia

Editor's note: the below information is excerpted from the promotional flyer for Natives of Sarawak. In the next issue a review of the book will be featured.

This book is an in-depth analysis of the problems faced by the native peoples of Sarawak, most of whom live in long-house communities in Borneo's tropical forests.

It describes the traditional social and economic system of swidden agriculture, and how their forest resources and way of life are increasingly threatened by the forces of *modernization*.

Natives of Sarawak is essential reading for those interested in Sarawak, and its natives, the fate of the tropical forests and the rights of indigenous peoples in the Third World.

Pressure: The A to Z of Campaigning in Britain

- *by Des Wilson*
  foreword by Ralph Nader
- Heinemann Educational Books LTD
  22 Bedford Square
  London, England WC1B 3HH
  1984

Anyone who feels a victim of the political or economic system can largely profit from Des Wilson's book, *The A to Z of Campaigning in Britain*. In this marvelously entertaining and informative book, Mr. Wilson covers such subjects as advertising, church, demonstrations, fundraising, humor, media, opinion polls, power, research, timing and truth. The book reveals how readily an almost impossible campaign can succeed when it is well thought out and pursued with hard work and persistence.

Backed by 20 years of experience as a leader for British non-governmental organizations and pressure groups, as a journalist, and as a politician, Des Wilson offers a practical guide to effectively campaign at local and national levels. He provides personal advice culled from years of campaigning. According to Mr. Wilson, "The object of this book is not just to help community/cause pressure groups to win, for even they may sometimes not deserve to. My aim is to help them to be effective with the resources at their disposal, and help them to be heard, so that their case is properly presented in the court of public opinion."

This book is a must for the effective campaigner. Des Wilson offers invaluable advice ranging from how to get your city to place a stop sign at a dangerous intersection, to how to get your country to minimize the use of lead in gasoline. Although the book is geared to campaigning in Britain, nearly all of it is applicable in other countries. It will surely help rainforest campaigners.

—Madeleine Dunphy

To order, contact:
Friends of the Earth –U.K.
377 City Road
London, England EC1 V1 NA.

directory

World Rainforest Movement Coordinator
Martin Khor
Third World Network
87 Cantonment Road
Penang, Malaysia

Tentative Regional Coordinators

Africa
Simon Muchiru
Environmental Liaison Centre
P.O. Box 72461
Nairobi, Kenya

Asia-Pacific
V.C. Mohan
Asia-Pacific Peoples Environmental Network
37 Lorong Birch
Pulau, Penang, Malaysia

Australia / New Zealand
John Seed
Rainforest Information Centre
P.O. Box 368
Lismore 2480, Australia

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Friends of the Earth-UK
377 City Road
London, England EC1 V1 NA

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Tropical Forest Action Network
501 Shinwa Building
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Shibuya-ku
Tokyo 150 Japan
#03 770-6308

North America
Randall Hayes
Rainforest Action Network
300 Broadway, Suite 28
San Francisco, CA 94133 USA

South Asia
Vandana Shiva
Research Foundation for Science Technology and Natural Resource Policy
105 Rajpur Road
Dehra Dun 248001 India

calendar

May 5, 1987
Deadline —
for the Multilateral Banks to begin implementing reform demands made during *Citizen's Conference on Tropical Forest, Indigenous Peoples, and the World Bank.*

May 13-16, 1987
Conference —
Central American Environmental Action
Managua, Nicaragua
Nicaraguan Association of Biologists and Ecologists
for more information contact:
Environmental Project on Central America
300 Broadway, Suite 28
San Francisco, CA USA 94133

June/July, 1987
Rainforest Roadshow —
John Seed, Mike Roselle, and Randy Hayes will tour the West Coast. If interested in a community event contact:
Rainforest Action Network
300 Broadway, Suite 28
San Francisco, CA USA 94133

September 7-13, 1987
World Rainforest Week —
Church groups, women, youth, trade unions, environmentalists, & scientists, etc. are involved. Start making connections. The date was chosen in honor of the conference in Penang in 1986. For information packet contact:
Rainforest Action Network
300 Broadway, Suite 28
San Francisco, CA USA 94133

September 11-18, 1987
Conference —
4th World Wilderness Congress: Worldwide Conservation
Colorado USA
for more information contact:
4th World Wilderness Congress
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO USA 80523

Late November 1987
Meeting —
International Tropical Timber Organization
Yokohama, Japan

October 16-18 1987
Conference —
Rainforest Conference
New York City, New York USA
for more information contact:
New York Rainforest Alliance
469-A Hudson St., Suite G11
New York, NY 10014 USA

February 1988
Conference —
Tropical Rainforest Conference
focus: Caribbean and Central American Rainforests
Miami, Florida USA
for more information contact:
Jeana & George Gann-Matzer
22601 SW 152nd Ave.
Goulds, FL 33170 USA

From:

To:

Pamela Becker

conditions for the bullocks, the operation being lit by pinewood torches."(12)

Later, BEC established a company town at Gallon Jug and built a railroad from there to Hillbank Town on the New River Lagoon. This route provided direct access to the coast, shipping and markets abroad.

Belize Estates did more than exploit forests. As an absentee landlord owning 50% of all private land, the company was a key power in keeping Belize an underdeveloped, dependent colony. Mahogany workers' wages stayed at about $15 a month (plus minimal rations) for over 100 years.(13) To protect its timber investment the company aggressively discouraged agriculture and hunting on its lands.

Ironically, these exclusionary policies and practices kept the BEC lands relatively intact. With selective logging, there was little of the disruption associated with clearcutting. With no agriculture, there was little clearing of bush. With few people living and hunting on the land, there was no pressure on wildlife. So the animals held on even as the large mahogany trees were railroaded into history.

We pull into Hillbank in the heat of the afternoon. There is evidence of nearby logging in the stack of bullet trees waiting by the water for shipment. There are few people around. The rich marshes surrounding the lagoon stretch to the northern horizon. Someone tells us that a pair of jabiru storks nest in this area. There are only nine to twelve breeding pairs left in Belize.(14) The threatened chestnut-billed heron is also known to inhabit streams nearby.

Leaving Hillbank we drive west through low canopy bush that was extensively logged 15 to 20 years ago. In the rainy season the cohune ridge and marsh forests would be inundated, the road barely passable.

"Lot of work, lot of drainage," says Jose as I try to imagine citrus groves here. The Maya, living here 1000 years before, practiced *chinampas*, an agricultural system based on drainage, diking, and controlled irrigation during the dry season.

Jose stops the landrover and quiet settles like a humid blanket. I picture the jungle cleared, replaced with fields of corn and beans, dark people stooping to the task.

We walk into the bush. We are in a high canopy forest of deciduous trees, epiphytes, and lianas. "You want to shoot tiger?" asks Jose. According to my contacts, all five species of wild cats in Belize are found on the BEC lands. Populations are fairly high owing to low hunting pressure. This grassroots bush information correlates with the findings of Alan Rabinowitz, the jaguar biologist who surveyed Hillbank-Gallon Jug and found "the highest density of jaguar sign in the country."(15) Rabinowitz rejected the area as a study site, however, because he was told it would eventually be cleared and developed. [Rabinowitz' book *Jaguar* is available mail-order from Earth First! Books in Tucson.]

Of the five species of cats, only the jaguar and the mountain lion are common in Hillbank-Gallon Jug. The ocelot, margay, and jaguarundi are more widely scattered. I heard the common bush story about a second type of jaguar, the "frijolillo" or *leopard tiger*, who "is an upstart fellow," according to Jose. Many hunters mistakenly consider male ocelots to be a jaguars with aggressive personalities.

"Maybe we get mountain cow or peccary for meat tonight," says Jose as we walk south on an old logging road. At one point we stop as the odor of peccary drifts our way. Near the Bowen-Coke boundary, hunting for white-collared peccary, red brocket deer, and Baird's tapir is good. The tapir, or *mountain cow*, is the national animal of Belize. All three species are listed as endangered by CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species).

Later on at camp we hear black howler monkeys booming through the night. Although also on the CITES list, howlers are fairly common in northwest Belize.

In all, 11 of the 15 Belizean mammals listed by CITES have significant populations on the BEC lands. The endangered black spider monkey may be the rarest, inhabiting Bowen's land near the Guatemalan border. One wonders what the animal populations were prior to logging, and further back, during Maya times.

The bush, given enough time, recovers.

Seventy-five million years ago, during the Cretaceous Period, most of Belize was under water. Animals and plants were isolated on island complexes scattered from Mexico to Nicaragua. As the sea retreated, species moved down the slopes to colonize the lowlands. When the land bridge we now call Central America opened, about two million years ago, routes of migration down from the north were established. As part of this biogeographical crossroads, Belize has a wealth of plants and animals.

Much more recently, during the Maya Classic Period (250-900 AD), the human population of what is now Belize was three to six times higher than it is today.(16) The northern limestone lowlands were densely peopled and extensively farmed.

Walking through the green bush light we come upon a low mound supporting trees hundreds of years old. The flat area in front of the mound announces a small plaza, overgrown with years. Nearby, a looter's trench reveals broken pots of plain design. A detailed archaeological survey of Hillbank-Gallon Jug has never been done.

In camp, reaching for sleep and a vision of the future, I count the red-and-black john crow beads that the Maya used for divination. But no vision comes.

The following morning we climb 400 feet up the Booth River escarpment, out of the lowlands, and leave Coke lands behind. The bush has a higher canopy because of increased rainfall and porous, limestone-derived soils. This was the mahogany heartland of Belize.

Barry Bowen has changed the face of Gallon Jug. The first evidence of this is the all-weather road that appears as we approach the old townsite. The town has been reborn, complete with thatch houses, large garden, the owner's hilltop manor, and a 3000-foot-long all-weather airstrip. The airstrip alone boggles the mind, because of its length and remote location.

All of these recent developments sit at the edge of a 1000-acre clearing where bulldozers have removed all semblance of jungle. With the cost of clearing bush in Belize at $300 per acre, a conservative estimate of expenses for the clearing would be $300,000.

Newly surfaced roads extend north and south. When completed this year, they will form the first all-weather road system in the history of the region.

"Two or three Americans with machines can do what plenty men with machetes do in 20 days," remarks Jose. "The animals hear a big machine shooting down the bush, they say 'that's troubling, let's move away from here.' They wilding away to Guatemala and Mexico, hunting no good here no more."

We climb back into the landrover and drive away.

Hours later, on the road near Hillbank, I am stirred from the incessant heat and dust by the shouts of my companions. I glance up to see the tail of a *red tiger* fade into roadside palms. A mountain lion is making its rounds. Just a glimpse, a tawny sign of wild energy passing through. Swift and invisible, darkness settles on the bush.

Giant liana in the bush, on Coke lands. Photos by Ed Grumbine.

A person should do a little of everything but not too much of anything.
— Creole proverb.

In February, 1987, at a press conference held in response to the FOE allegations, Coca-Cola agreed to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment on its share of the BEC estate. Meetings were also held in Belize City in March with Belize Audubon, and in Washington, DC, in April to solicit input from US environmentalists.

"We made a mistake by not coming out with this from the beginning," explained Michelle Beale, in Houston. "Because so much misinformation is out there, people think we are going into cattle ranching or wood burning power plants. The purpose of the meetings was to outline what had happened to date, present our plans and time schedule, address the FOE concerns, and try to get everybody together to start a working relationship with a common basis of information."

Many concerns have been raised regarding the EIA: How much of the 196,000 acres would be inventoried? Where were the 25,000 acres that Coke wanted to develop? Would Coke use pesticides such as DDT, which are legal in Belize though not in the US? Would economic and sociological impacts be addressed? What about an archaeological survey? And who would be hired to lead the EIA team?

After meeting with several consulting firms, Coke is considering Dr. David T. Rogers, an ornithologist at the University of Alabama with extensive field experience in Central America including Belize. Rogers was instrumental in the creation of the first designated Wilderness in Alabama, the Sipsey, and also helped write and introduce into the state legislature air and water pollution laws.

"Coke wants preliminary results by the end of 1988," Rogers explained to me over the phone. "I think that can be done but I will suggest a longer-term arrangement." Rogers wants the EIA to cover all of Coke's land and would like to see the study expanded to include the other partners as well, and he would like Coke to consider alternative systems of citrus agriculture.

"You can talk about Yugos and Rolls Royces and still be talking about cars" said Rogers, "and the same is true of an EIA. I want to do it right so that we seek publicity instead of hide from it."

A key issue is the future of the majority of land that Coke will not develop. "We are not interested in land speculation," states Beale. "Because of the urgency of foreclosure we purchased more land than we wanted. We would like to see some sort of preserve set aside, but we don't know where it would be, who would manage it, or how big it would be." Coke is also interested in working with Bowen and the Texans to create a reserve that would follow ecological, instead of property boundaries. "We would be willing to go to them, but who knows how they will respond?" said Beale.

Based on their actions to date, one should expect very little from Mischer and Howell. Howell is president of Howell Petroleum, and Mischer heads a Texas bank with assets of $10 billion. He is also president of a real estate subdivision and development corporation. The partnership incorporated in Belize as Yalbac Ranch and Cattle, Ltd.

In December, 1986, the government granted them a package of concessions including a tax holiday of 15 years and exemption from import duties. In return, the company agreed to employ 30 permanent workers by the end of 1988. It is not known what environmental stipulations may be attached to the concessions. Nor is it known exactly what the Texans wish to do. But as the name implies, Yalbac Cattle and Ranch seems to be moving toward clearing bush for cattle, the classic "hamburger connection." All attempts by letter and phone to verify such intentions have been in vain.

Aside from the building of many miles of all-weather roads and the continuation of a large-scale, but properly managed logging lease, little development has occurred on their land . . . so far.

"I've already declared the whole area a nature reserve," declared Barry Bowen in a recent interview. "If I fulfilled my wildest dreams I would only be clearing 30,000 acres."(17) As of press time Bowen had 29,000 acres left to go.

Though he has cleared bush and built roads and an airstrip, Bowen, too, has no specific development plans that he is making public.

"We are going to try just about anything, whatever is economically feasible," replied a Bowen representative to my phone queries. "We are certainly looking into some form of first-class tourism, as well as food crops, cattle, and cacao." When asked about leaving some areas undeveloped the man replied, "some of the lands do not have any value so we would leave them in high bush."

Bowen appears to be interested in selling some part of his holdings, "in excess of 100,000 acres," but only to the highest bidder. And this is where the outline of development expands beyond the new owners of the BEC lands. For there may be several high bidders.

Even with generous investment concessions Belize has been slow to attract foreign projects. But now the word is out. Though deals are not yet finalized, it is no secret that Belize is courting several large foreign concerns with plans on a scale to match those proposed for Hillbank-Gallon Jug. One European group is negotiating for long-term lease of many thousands of acres of government-owned Forest Reserves. They are interested in agroforestry plantations of mahogany, teak, rosewood, citrus, and cacao. Their source for high-quality mahogany stock is the Peten forest of northern Guatemala, one of Guatemala's last uncut rainforest strongholds. As you read this, 11-foot diameter mahogany are feeling the bite of chainsaws. Their seeds may be planted in clearings in Belize.

Cumulatively, if all such interests are accommodated, hundreds of thousands of acres of bush could be converted to various forms of agribusiness. When "sustained" yield is synonymous with the lifetime of investors, the tropical forests of countries like Belize are indeed at risk.

In Belize it is not a simple question of whether or not to develop, it is a question of what kind and scale of development is sustainable. And here lie both the promise and the problem: "The greatest potential for rapid environmental deterioration during Belize's development will come from projects that depend on foreign capital."(18)

Though colonialism was rejected many years ago, Belize may find that the current direction of development brings more than income into the economy. In fact, it may even bring less income. In 1983, the outflow of private capital from the country exceeded the inflow by $1.2 million.(19) On a global scale research finds that 71% of the profits made in the Third World were returned to the investing countries.(20)

These patterns, in Belize, are linked to land ownership and the import-export economy. Only half of the country's land is privately held, and 80% of that is owned by US interests.(21) Of productive agricultural land, about 60% is corporate-owned, with most controlled from abroad. Only 10 to 15% of this arable land is now being used.

The situation is exacerbated by population growth of 2% a year. With 58% of the people under age 20, continued growth is guaranteed.(23) And the people are hungry for basic human ser-

continued on page 20

8th Ar
Round River
July 6 -
North Rim G
Ariz

"Well listen here, if you ain't been there. The sights to see are beyond compare. Some folks claim it's just a hole in the earth. But I don't think they know what that hole is worth."
Glen Waldeck, Grand Canyon Rendezvous

As the snow begins to melt on the crests of the North Rim, plans are being finalized for the eighth annual Round River Rendezvous. Our tribe will once again gather to celebrate Mother Earth and share our experience and wisdom for protecting her. We invite all Earth First!ers to journey to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon in Arizona for a week of workshops, sing-and-dance-alongs, hiking, and good old country fun. Even if you can only make it for a few days, you will not regret it! Not only is this year's Rendezvous being held above one of North America's most spectacular natural formations, there will also be many inspirational eco-activists on hand to share their wild stories and advice.

A few things will be a little different this year. One complaint that seemed to stand above the others was the schedule of overlapping and unpredictable workshops. This year we plan to concentrate the official workshops on those issues of primary importance to the movement, e.g., **Dealing with the Forest Service, Uranium Mining in the Grand Canyon . . .**, while allowing other, equally important, but perhaps more specialized or localized issues to be scheduled around those of greatest concern. Tuesday and Thursday will both feature six workshops, two at 10am, 1pm, and 3pm. Wednesday morning there will be two workshops at 10am, and the entire afternoon will be reserved for local and regional meetings — networking and appropriate workshops. Local and regional networking is a very important aspect of the movement and we encourage everybody to participate.

Well, I'm goin' out to Arizona. I'm gonna hike the Grand Canyon. What the hey, since I'm out that way and I've got my lug soles on

We would like to keep parking of stinkmobiles more centralized this year. Someone will be directing cars, vans, etc. to park in a specified area, where we hope most of you ecology minded campers will leave the beasts. A greeting table will have information and a tentative schedule of events. Someone will be at the table to beg for donations for the RRR and to answer any stupid questions you might have the guts to ask. We will be asking everybody to cough up at least $20 for the RRR; for a full week of camping, workshops, music, and entertainment, that's pretty damn cheap!

The Freddies have so far refused to allow *any* campfires, but fear not, we hope to solve this *minor* problem. Plans are once again to have a *few* main campfires for cooking and evening jams, featuring one or more entertainers. Should the Freddies refuse to back down on the campfire restriction, it was the consensus of the RRR Committee that we would need amplified sound for 2 or 3 nights.

There are a number of events in the planning for each evening. On Monday it has been suggested that a ritual be conducted, focusing on the place of the Grand Canyon and our connection with it.

On Tuesday, Dave Gaines is organizing a country dance, complete with caller, with the hopes of providing some ol' fashioned, toe-stepping fun. But he needs musicians (all instruments)! You don't have to know the tunes — just be prepared for some wild jamming and great fun. Interested musicians please contact Dave at POB 119, Lee Vining, CA 93541, (619) 647-6496 (till 9pm only).

Wednesday we look forward to frolicking to the wonderful music of the Lounge Lizards from Austin, Texas.

Another change this year is the addition of an art show. Art is a very important, integral part of the EF! movement, and as such, many feel it has a place at the RRR. Submissions are still being taken for EF! artists and craftspeople who would like to show their work during the RRR. This is, however, more an opportunity for EF! artists to share their inspirations with other EF!ers than it is an opportunity to make money. It is asked that the works being displayed reflect the EF! message or at least a profound respect for Earth and her magic. The show will be Wed., Thurs., and Fri. We ask that 50% of the artist's proceeds be donated to EF! RRR fund. This is a chance to showcase the power and aesthetics of our colorful movement and it would be a shame to cancel it due to insufficient artist participation. Interested EF!ers must contact Gena Trott, POB 652, Reserve, NM 87830, *before* the RRR.

Would you like other EF!ers to know what's happening in your bioregion? An ongoing information fair, in conjunction with the art show, will be held Wednesday evening through Friday. Bring flyers, newspaper clippings, petitions, photo displays, your banners, donation cans, etc. This is your chance to educate others about your favorite cause(s), from the rainforest to Mono Lake, Grizzlies to old growth, and to garner wide support for your efforts. Bring a table if you can, or you can set up on the ground. For more info and ideas, contact Sally Miller, POB 22, Lee Vining, CA 93541, (619) 647-6360 (work and weekends).

Friday is reserved for that infamous Sagebrush Patriots Rally where minstrels, poets, outrageous speakers, and various other acts will surely have us dancing, singing, and crying the hours away.

I tell you right now I'm going down to the bottom, gonna soak my feet in the muddy Colorado. Lay on a bank, watch the stars up above. Do all the things that I've been dreaming of

There is one very important issue about which the Committee must speak out with a strong voice. Some of you have already guessed it . . . DOGS. For starters we wish to reprint a letter verbatim that we received anonymously in regard to this problem.

Dogs are OK — when they are where they belong — in a fenced backyard, on a leash in a city park, or on a ranch, to name just a few places. They do not belong in the wilderness, except if they have been taught to shit in a latrine, not chase wildlife, and not disrupt the quiet of evening.

I believe in killing dogs who are out disrupting my wilderness experience. Here's how. The easiest way is to feed them a fish embedded with a couple of fishhooks. You can also sacrifice part of your lunch or dinner along with a bent needle or two. Generally, a dog out in the wilderness isn't eating quite as well as it is used to and will gobble up whatever you toss him — and then its good bye Rover.

If you don't want to sacrifice your hard carried hooks or needles, you probably can find some broken glass around that the last jerk littered in your campsite and feed this to the mut. Just stuff it inside of a rice ball.

Of course, if you are at an organized and accessible event like an Earth First! gathering, it is easy to come prepared. You may see me at the next RRR — but you won't see the pound of hamburger and the handful of carpet tacks, and you can be sure that your barking dog will come across a delectable looking killer meatball sometime during its wanderings.

Look, anytime I'm out in the woods I carry an extra package of beef jerky and some tacks. I'm prepared. So why not leave your dog home next time?

If this letter is not enough to convince you about how much these hounds bother some people . . . the Committee also urges you to, for one week, **PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DOGS AT HOME!** Those who do not, will be forced to deal not only with the Committee, but also with the author of the letter above. If you bring your dog, and there is one complaint of any kind, the Committee will ask you and your dog to leave.

To the author of the letter, we ask you to refrain from any of your threatened actions while you are at the RRR. We ask you to consider that these dogs may be dearly beloved by a fellow EF!er, and that your actions will put not only possibly innocent dogs but certainly innocent wild omnivores at risk.

No one volunteered to be a national ride coordinator so there isn't one. Try contacting your local contact person.

Photos of RRR 86 by David Cross.

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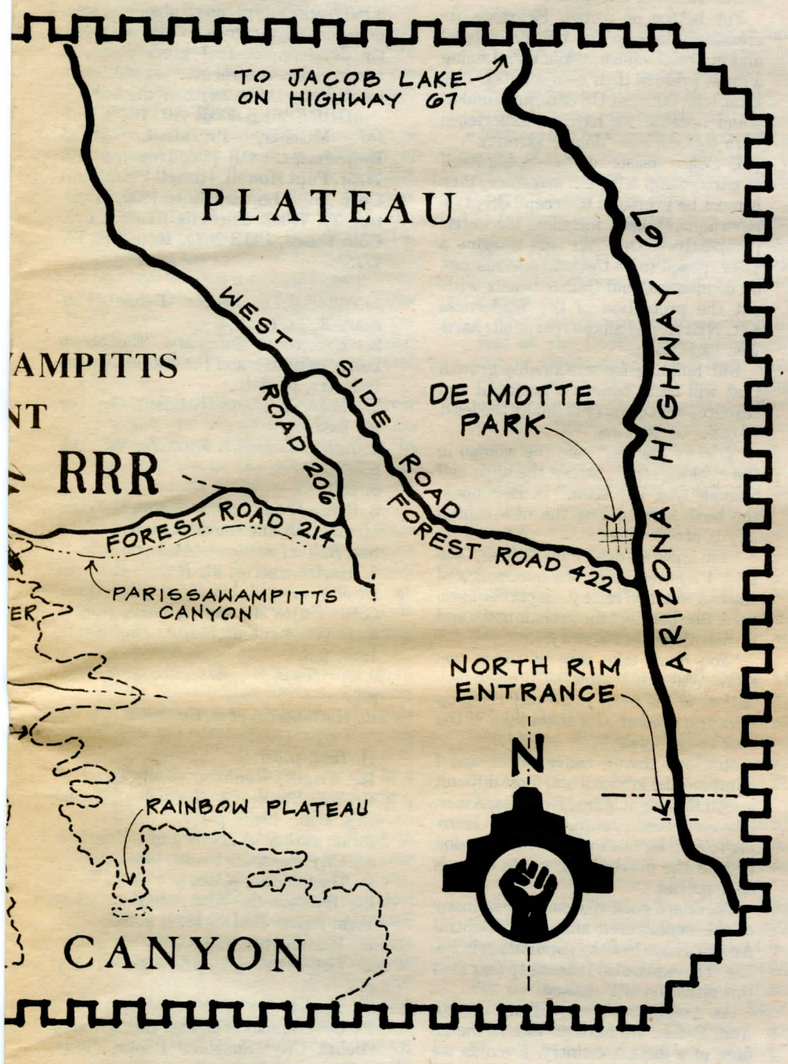


Who knows, if it works, it's another fine way to decentralize.

SO . . . WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP???

Volunteers are needed for many fine and rewarding duties . . .

*We need someone to coordinate rides from the airports to the RRR.

*We need volunteers for the greeting table.

*Trash maintenance and disposal.

*Volunteers needed to facilitate parking.

*The Committee will desperately be seeking volunteers for tasks throughout the RRR. Please make yourself accessible to them or point out whatever you feel needs attention, or take care of it yourself.

Yea, we're going to do just like the pioneers done. Live off the land and eat the pine pinyons. What do ya say, we pitch our tent over there. Away from the lions and the tigers and the bears?

We need to think about where it is that we are going, what the land offers, and what she demands of us. The nearest fresh water source will be 20 miles away. **BRING WATER JUGS** , as many as possible. This is also a bring your own booze type deal and our experience suggests bringing more than one expects to consume. Another thing that Mama Earth and other humans don't like is those white suds in the watershed. Be a friend to Ma Nature and bring only biodegradable suds.

For personal attire and equipment, here are some things you should definitely bring:

Camping gear, be prepared for rain even if it is the Grand Canyon; Clothes for all types of weather (anyone at the Idaho RRR need not be told why); Water jugs; Food for you and whoever else you are responsible for (Kanab is probably the closest place with a wide selection); Firewood; Lots of energy and love.

Other things that would be very helpful:

Tarps; Materials for the childrens' workshops; Ropes; Literature about issues in your area; Musical instruments . . .

For those of you bringing kids, they will once again be cooperatively organized by Michele Miller. She needs to know soon how many will be coming and who else wants to help with these activities. Michele can be reached at Box 38A, Cohasset Stage, Chico, CA 95926.

Some places that deserve our mula on the way to the RRR . . . De Mott Station at the turnoff of 67 & Jacobs Lake; at Hurricane, the Paris Tempe Hot Springs, The Bit & Spur Restaurant, and Chum's (for eyeglass leashes); and the Vermilion Cliffs Resort east of Jacobs Lake.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, July 6
Circle meeting

Tuesday, July 7
Deep Ecology
Grizzly Bear
Mountain Lions
Uranium Mining
Rainforests
Grazing
Paper Monkeywrenching

Wednesday, July 8
Bioregionalism
Media
Local and Regional Caucus

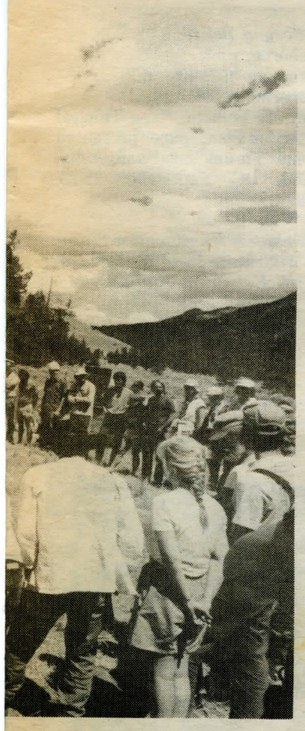
Thursday, July 9
Forest Service/Forest Planning
Bald Mountain
Redneck Women's Caucus
EF! Foundation
Fundraising
Wilderness and Biodiversity

Friday, July 10
Sagebrush Patriots Rally

Other workshops which are likely to happen include: Environmental problems in Central America, Art Poetry, Guerrilla Theater, Council of All Beings, . . .

The Rendezvous is a special time to rekindle that "green fire" which we all share, but sometimes let die down too far. Environmentalism is not a job, it is a way of life. We must not let ourselves be discouraged too much by the war humans wage against Mother Earth. We gather to renew our vision of a world where humans and Nature are at peace with one another, respect one another. Come gather with us atop that great canyon, live with the land and many beautiful people for a week, so that you may return to your bioregion refreshed and ready to **GIVE 'EM HELL!** Remember, we've gotta outlive the bastards!

I don't plan to do this alone. I got some friends I call my own. It's too nice a day to be dismayed, down here in Arizona



Belize (cont)

vices, still lacking in many areas. With the collapse of world sugar prices in the early 1980s, the Belizean economy has been severely stressed. As long as sugar cane continues to be the number one export item, the government will be hard put to make ends meet.

All these forces combine to create enormous pressure to develop the 75% of Belize that has yet to feel the bite of the bulldozer's blade.

What forces within Belize may act on behalf of sustainable development? Laws in Belize to protect the environment provide broad coverage. There is legal provision for the creation of forestry reserves, national parks, wildlife preserves and more. However, the laws "lack procedural standards for implementation."(24) And there are but few employees, scant funding and therefore little enforcement, outside of logging regulations.

Although 28% of Belize is in Forest Reserves (equivalent to our National Forests), there is increasing pressure to develop them for agriculture and other non-forestry purposes. One 81,000-acre area was recently opened to sugar cane farming without any change in its legal status as a reserve.

With a professional staff of six, the forestry department, in the Ministry of Natural Resources, is charged with the impossible task of managing the expanding parks system as well as the Forest Reserves. The department has no one trained in conservation or wildlife biology.

The government, facing continuing deficits, has little interest and less money for funding resource protection. Strategies to encourage foreign investment in agriculture, tourism, and fisheries are the top three priorities of the current administration led by Manuel Esquivel. This situation seems to underline the oft-stated view that conservation can only occur after "basic" needs are met.

The Belize Audubon Society is the only long-standing environmental group in the country. Because there is little institutional support for conservation, the BAS, with funding from International Audubon, World Wildlife, and others, is the main force behind what planning and management do occur. But with only one full-time staff member, the minimal resources and expertise of the BAS are overwhelmed.

There is also a troubling lack of vision, not unlike that which afflicts most overworked people and groups. The press of daily demands restricts the ability to see the larger pattern.

Vision aside, the BAS conservation agenda may be inadequate to counteract the many development plans about to become reality.

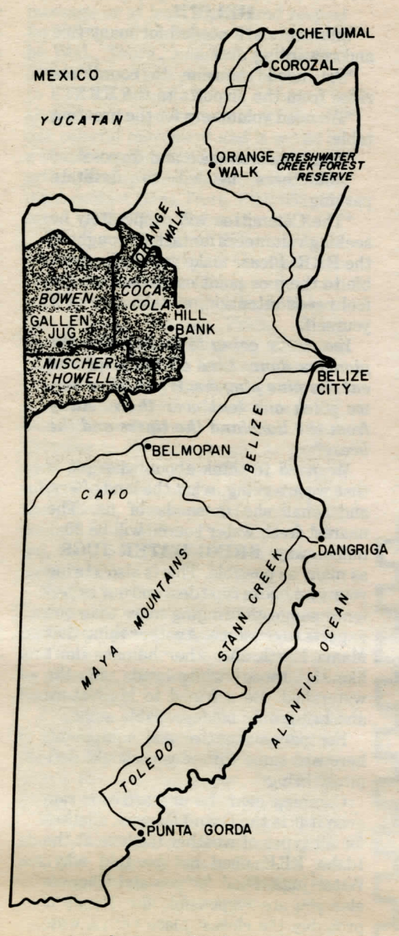
"Belize is the last opportunity in Central America to help establish an ideal preserve system." — Dennis Glick, World Wildlife Fund US

Last opportunities many times turn into lost opportunities. Given the many facets of the situation in Belize, an ideal preserve system seems distant. But aside from a great deal of negotiating and planning, little development has actually occurred (other than the sale of 13% of the country). There is still great potential for positive change. And the players in the best position to control the course of events are Coca-Cola, Mischer, and Howell, and Bowen.

Coke deserves positive feedback for their willingness to initiate, albeit belatedly, interchange with BAS and US environmentalists. They should be encouraged to follow through with the full-scale EIA that incorporates ecological, archaeologic, economic, and sociological concerns and examines alternative systems of citrus production. It would appear that Rogers is the best person to lead the EIA team and Coke needs to know this since the hiring decision is imminent.

This may be the first time that a multinational corporation pays full attention, not just lip service, to ecologically sustainable development. If Coke proceeds carefully, the company may be able to grow oranges for profit with minimal adverse impacts and simultaneously provide a major boost to the struggling economy of Belize — and also create a preserve of at least 165,000 acres.

The catch is Coke cannot do all this without help from its original partners. At this point, Mischer and Howell are



not to be trusted. They are unwilling to communicate and seem headed toward the kind of project that will destroy bush for short-term profit while it provides minimal benefits to the people of Belize. The Texans must follow Coke's lead by committing to the EIA process. Since they are US developers they need to hear from US environmentalists.

Receiving mail from a foreign country will not change Bowen. But an offer of money for land "that has no value" might stir his interest. If Bowen is willing to sell 100,000 acres to the highest bidder (he bought the original 700,000 acres for $7,000,000), then the Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, and other funding sources need to be alerted.

The government of Belize is not in a position, financially or ideologically, to require EIAs from developers. Yet a national conservation plan is past due. With such limited resources the government does not want to hear advice from foreign sources without monetary support attached. There is no reason to create new regulations without money and expertise to enforce the current ones. Belize needs assistance with few economic strings attached.

Two such efforts are already under way in many countries around the world. The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) has been developing a global preserves framework for years. They need to become directly involved in Belize. Forestry reviews and action plans are being devised and implemented in 30 countries. Structured to directly influence government policy while fitting into a global framework, the plans are focused on long-term, sustainable forestry that would provide income to developing countries without sacrificing ecosystems. In Belize, such planning could affect almost 30% of the country and eliminate short-term leasing of Forest Reserves. The longest current lease is only ten years, which meets no one's definition of "sustainability." Planning and funding for this effort are being provided by the World Resources Institute, USAID (Agency for International Development), United Nations Development Program, and World Bank. While these organizations are not beyond reproach for past (and some current) policies, forestry planning is a step in a sustainable direction.

Closer to home, the US Congress will vote on a Foreign Assistance Act this year. Part of the funds provided under this law will be for biological diversity. Of the $32 billion per year now spent on development assistance worldwide, only 2% goes toward conservation. Contrast this with the $800 billion spent worldwide on defense and armaments.(25) USAID administers what few biodiversity funds are available and has active programs in Belize. A pitiful $2.5 million was approved by Congress for this year so there is need for improvement. Lobby with letters to your Congresspersons.

First with slavery and then through long years of colonial oppression, Belize was controlled by outside interests. Even today, foreign interests dominate the country. The forces are cultural as well as economic. This point was made clear to me when, eating lunch in a small Chinese restaurant, I was shocked to hear my favorite American band playing their current MTV hit. And this was in a town where you have to walk half a mile to use a telephone.

For better or worse, Belizeans increasingly look to the US for cultural and material values, while maintaining a great pride in their own country. This is difficult for most US citizens to understand because we have no experience with this curious "double identity."

If Belize insists on developing itself in partnership with US investors, then it must be prepared to accept US-style environmentalism, including biocentric perspectives. One can only imagine a US exposed to all the land speculators, oil companies, and timber beasts without the protection of the Wilderness Act, NEPA, and all the rest of our hard-won legislation.

But building for sustainable growth that will truly benefit a beautiful and resource-rich country is finally the least of tasks to be done.

"I write stories," said the woman in the clothing store. "About the birds and animals that I've seen." In Belmopan, the bush surrounding the new capital city is always near.

"You know we don't molest them," she said. I learned about the hummingbird she had watched raise young in her backyard. She had kept meticulous notes and turned them into a story.

"You must take care of them, you know. When they want to fly, when they fall out of the nest, yes, I pick them up from the ground. Get them back in the nest to try again."

Just one chance conversation and I glimpsed the greatest and most difficult lesson that all humans, Belizean, American and others, continue to face: learning to care for one's place with a passion beyond the overbearing needs of one's own species.

There are good reasons why so many of the endangered animals of Central America have healthy populations in Belize. There are also reasons to fear that this situation will change.

As Americans we are truly remote from Belize. We have no vote in the affairs of a distant country. Even as we feel the bonds of tropical forests with the very act of breathing, there are precious few handles with which we can work for the long-term health of our Central American neighbors, tapirs and humans together.

Questions of politics, economics, and fundamental world view are clearly drawn. There are no simple "direct action" solutions. This poses profound challenges to "no compromise" Earth First! perspectives. There is no Belize EF! group. Deep ecology and civil disobedience are as foreign to Belizeans as chainsaws are to Maya jungle farmers. What if Coke was forced out by environmentalist pressure only to be replaced by bush-clearing cattle barons? Do we want 30,000 acres of orange orchards or 200,000 acres of pasture? Or can we expect all 700,000 acres of the BEC lands to be protected? Does it matter what we want when Belizeans want otherwise? Are we only left with writing letters to multinational corporations and Washington, DC?

For now, yes. But if Coke does not deliver, other tactics may be called for. If the Texans do not answer our questions, we will need to ask more loudly. Meanwhile, we should study our American lifestyles to see how we tacitly support the "hamburger connection," multinational presence in the Third World, and the media manipulation of other cultures.

Maybe things will go better with Coke. But not without a woman who helps hummingbirds, bush enough for a *red tiger's* afternoon ramble, and freedom for Maya spirits to live unlooted. Or development that gives people a country that is stronger, yet still sufficiently intact to be worth calling home.

ADDRESSES FOR ACTION: Walter Mischer, President, Allied Bancshares, POB 1515, Houston, TX 77251. Paul Howell, Howell Petroleum Corp., 1010 Lamar, Suite 1800, Houston, TX 77002. Michelle Beale, Coca-Cola Foods, POB 2079, Houston, TX 77252.

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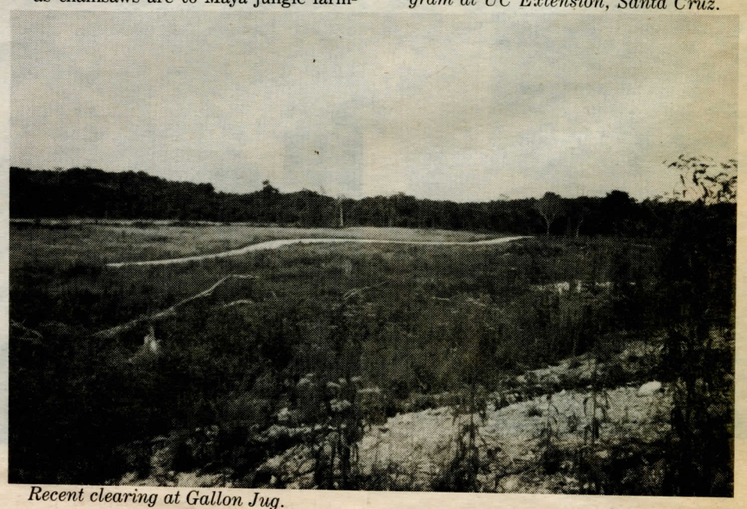


Recent clearing at Gallon Jug.

Belize Update

from Rainforest Action Network, 300 Broadway, S.F., CA 94133 (415-398-4404)

On March 19, a meeting was held in Belize City, Belize, between members of the Belize Audubon Society and Coca-Cola Foods. This meeting was initiated by Coke to try to resolve questions raised by the international conservation community regarding Coke's plans for developing its 196,000-acre parcel in Belize.

The government, citizens and conservationists of Belize WANT Coca-Cola to be there, to bring into Belize foreign dollars that hopefully will help provide the basic human services Belize now lacks. To its credit, Coke has made exciting proposals toward a responsible approach to their citrus operation. Some of the proposals include the provision to not start development until a thorough Environmental Impact Report has been completed. Coke is willing to contract whoever is acceptable to the Belize Audubon Society to do this report — or commission the Society to do it themselves.

The agricultural plan submitted by Coke proposes to preserve watershed areas by retaining corridors of forest between citrus groves and streams. The pest-control portion of their plan includes no pre-programmed application of biological or chemical controls. Any controls would be on an as-needed basis. Proposed biological controls include: 1) a fungus to control rust mites, 2) wasps to control scale, 3) ladybugs to control aphids, and 4) a fungus to control milk weed vine. Nutritional elements to be added as needed include: basic copper sulfate, zinc, manganese, borax, spray oil, lorsban. Herbicides considered for use are Roundup and Krovar. (Readers who can share knowledge of these materials, please contact Denise at the RAN office as soon as possible.)

Lastly, although Coke will not commit itself to any particular figure, they have indicated an interest in setting aside a portion of their lands as a preserve.

Coke should be thanked for their concern. The Belize government did not require Coke to provide any environmental report or set aside sensitive habitat. There is a development blitz happening now in Belize that makes the California Gold Rush look like a snail race. For a development-hungry country like Belize, Coke's example of environmental consideration, with the creation of a forum to work with the local conservation authority, could become a model for local and international development policy. If Coke's proposals represent a real working plan, Belize may be able to have their development without sacrificing their environment.

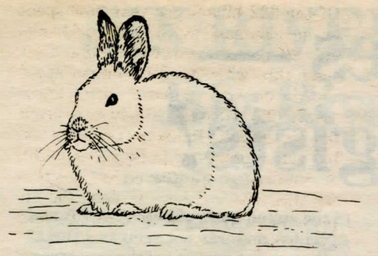
Coke should be urged to follow through with their good ideas. In your letter of support, tell Coke to be daring — to set aside a huge reserve! We've seen the wrong side of development, now let's see if things really DO go better with Coke!

In closing, we mention an exciting challenge. There is a pristine rainforest in southern Belize, an area known as Raspaculo Creek. This land represents a vital link in a contiguous preserve that includes the Cockscomb Jaguar Preserve — the first such preserve in the world — and an area of mountainous rainforest, the Maya Mountains.

With an area this size preserved, countless species of wildlife would be protected. This link could serve as a research area for tropical studies, or as an area opened to environmentalists worldwide for limited tourism. The Rainforest Action Network is researching the possibility of preserving this area. Information will be published as it becomes available.

Remember to write Coke — caring about our planet is the real thing.

Rainforest Action Network is an umbrella group representing a wide range of rainforest activists. RAN has strong connections with Earth First! (EF!er Randy Hayes is director of RAN, and RAN produces the rainforest supplements printed in Earth First!*), with Earth Island Institute, and with leading international rainforest groups Sahabat Alam Malaysia and Friends of the Earth-United Kingdom.*



Alaska Natives (cont)

wildlife resources of this comparatively unproductive land probably could not support the current native population without outside food sources.

The rural Alaskan native is artificially maintained by a host of resource inputs. In some villages, 80-90% of the people are on welfare (this indicates their overall poverty level as well as degree of dependency) and this inflow of food, goods, and services has allowed the populations to exceed the capacity of the land to support humans with local resources. To use a crude analogy, Elk herds can be maintained at artificially high levels by winter hay feeding, but then they overgraze their winter ranges. Similarly, Alaskan natives enjoy a higher standard of living than local resources alone would permit. Without the outside expenditures, many villages would have ceased to exist long ago. Indeed, many of these "subsistence" people are like the "independent" ranchers in the West, who depend on federally subsidies.

In addition to "higher" standards of living and higher survival rates, there have been immense changes in hunting technology. On the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta, as elsewhere in bush Alaska, motorboats, snowmobiles, ATVs (all terrain vehicles) and airboats have replaced the traditional canoes, dogsleds, and legs. Rifles and shotguns have replaced bows and arrows. These changes have given hunters access to much wider hunting regions and have made hunting easier.

I am not suggesting that rural Alaskan natives be abandoned to starve so they are once again in balance with the land's capacity to sustain them. I am suggesting that rural life is no longer a subsistence survival situation and special privileges of access to any natural resources are unjustified.

Furthermore, I would have no objection to true subsistence hunting, including the year-round unregulated harvest of animals and plants, if the individual (of any race) were willing to forgo modern medicine, housing, weapons, transportation, etc. and risk his or her survival by trying to eke out a living from the land using local resources. People desiring preservation of Alaskan native culture should advocate rejection of all modern attributes, for only in that way can cultural purity be maintained. In today's world, the preservation of native culture, like the preservation of wildlands, can only be achieved by restricting technological advances that mitigate natural ecological regulatory mechanisms. Just as one cannot preserve wilderness while allowing unrestricted vehicle access across the land, one cannot preserve a hunting and fishing culture while allowing unregulated population growth, use of modern weapons, etc.

It would be presumptuous to ask native Alaskans to give up the conveniences of modern civilization while others have them, but it is not presumptuous to ask that anyone who accepts these "benefits" also accept the human imposed regulations that keep them in check. These may include hunting regulations, pollution standards, and other environmental restrictions.

To give an example of how a single technological innovation can have a dramatic impact on culture, I'll review how snowmobiles altered rural Alaskan village life: On a snowmobile, one could go further in search of game and therefore hunt areas not accessible to other villagers. Villagers who relied upon their dog sleds or their legs for transportation found it increasingly difficult to find game close to the village, and even areas further afield were often already hunted out by those with snowmobiles. No longer did it take substantial skill as a hunter to complete a successful hunt, it required instead a snowmobile. This changed the status of individuals within the group and the skills required to attain status. In an environment where snowmobile use is unrestricted, a hunter who wanted to be successful had few options other than adopting the snowmobile.

Snowmobiles also meant that individuals could hunt, run a trapline, or gather other resources without having to leave the village for long durations. This enabled people who had lived a nomadic lifestyle to remain in one location. This, in turn, increased the use of local resources, including firewood and game, often beyond the ability of the land to replace the losses. The snowmobile also enabled native people to take advantage of educational, medical, and social opportunities available in the villages; but it weakened the role of hunting and gathering in the culture. With the time spent in the role of hunter reduced, and not filled with any new role that demanded attention, the free time often was filled with the TV or alcohol.

Snowmobiles had to be purchased and required outside resources to be operated. Thus, obtaining what had come to be considered a necessity in bush Alaskan life required outside income. This entailed seeking jobs locally — which in many villages did not exist — leaving the village to work, or depending on welfare. Each of these alternatives reduced independence, destroyed cultural values, and hastened the assimilation of Alaskan native people. Yet the natives overwhelmingly embraced conveniences such as snowmobiles and other fixtures of our technological society.

ANILCA guarantees the use of snowmobiles, ATVs and other modern technology for "traditional" subsistence activities, even within Alaska's new National Parks and Preserves. ATV use has created rutted, eroding trails in Parks and Preserves. One area in which this has been contested is the Gates of the Arctic National Park, where Eskimos in the village of Anaktuvuk Pass have resisted Park Service attempts to control ATV use and the resulting damage within the Park. The Eskimos claim use of ATVs is a traditional right, yet when I visited the village in 1974 ATVs were not used. What constitutes "traditional" use is open to debate. Is a practice that began ten years ago a "traditional use?"

Loss of cultural values along with the privatization of what were once public lands — lands available to all people including Alaskan natives — are perhaps the greatest long-term threats to Alaska's wildlands and the cultural purity of a hunting and gathering lifestyle. The interspersal of private lands among public tracts under the management of different public agencies presents a rat's nest of jurisdictional problems that complicates any long-term planning (as the checkerboard ownership of timberlands in the West has demonstrated).

Native leaders are now working to consolidate their power by attempting to persuade Congress to grant sovereignty rights to the lands the natives own. This would further complicate protection of public values. Sovereignty would, among other things, confer tax benefits to native corporations which they will otherwise lose in 1991, and ensure their position as Alaska's largest corporate powers. Sovereignty could preempt state (and perhaps federal) regulatory authority on all native activities including hunting seasons, bag limits, methods, etc.; and could preempt state protection of wildlife habitat and water quality.

Native leaders seek sympathy for their sovereignty proposal by arguing that they will be forced to sell their properties to pay the taxes when the 1991 tax-free period ends. Aside from the fact that taxes are paid by all other private landowners, this claim is misleading, for a provision in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act provides for protection of *undeveloped* lands by incorporation in land banks. In land banks native properties are protected against loss of ownership and taxation, plus receive federal fire protection, assistance in resource management, and trespass control. The public does not necessarily gain any public access privileges, it merely gains the benefit of covenants guaranteeing the lands' undeveloped status. These agreements are negotiated for ten-year periods, so they do not provide a long-term guarantee against development.

Little mention has been made in the national conservation media about the inconsistency of native corporate behavior with the myth of natives as the first ecologists; nor has there been a serious attempt to analyze the possible long-term repercussions of continuing our present double standard regarding native people. Furthermore, native people appear eager to accept modern conveniences that assure the death of their culture, yet rhetorically maintain a commitment to its preservation.

I believe part of the reluctance to criticize native groups lies in our belief that aboriginal people are inherently more sensitive to the environment than non-native people. In order to maintain this illusion we ignore evidence which might compromise this view or we excuse behavior that does not fit the mold as a corruption of "native values." This myth has a powerful hold on the public imagination, and native leaders promote it to their benefit.

Furthermore, any discussion of aboriginal people is complicated by their position as downtrodden and exploited groups. There is no doubt that America's Indian and Eskimo peoples were culturally destroyed, mistreated, and broken in spirit. Americans, in recognition of these past and present abuses, are sympathetic to Indian and Eskimo demands for compensation. Some Americans even welcome reverse exploitation as a means of assuaging their own guilt for being wealthy.

In addition, the nation has been moving from the "melting pot" theory (which some people never accepted) toward an appreciation of cultural differences. Unfortunately, we tend to believe that culture is innate, ignoring the fact that cultural values are transferable. Just as Eskimos and Indians have willingly become corporate presidents, whites have become subsistence hunters.

Values are not separate from the environmental circumstances which shaped their evolution; hence preservation of wildlands also preserves cultural options for all people, native and non-native, because it preserves the circumstances under which hunting and gathering cultures evolved. Ironically, if the present trends of the native corporations are any indication of the future, they may well represent the single biggest threat to the natives' own cultural heritage as well as to the ecological integrity of Alaska's wildlands.

George Wuerthner has lived, explored, and studied in Alaska on many different occasions and throughout the state. During the last 14 years, his research has taken him to over 70 Alaskan villages. George says that this article is intended not as a complete exploration of the subject, but as "food for thought" to encourage environmentalists to help remedy problems that they have been loath to confront. We invite Alaskan natives or environmentalists with extensive knowledge of Alaskan native issues to respond to this controversial essay.

Alaskan Natives — the First Ecologists?

by George Wuerthner

In 1985 thousands of acres of Southeast Alaska's old growth Sitka Spruce/Western Hemlock forests were clearcut in patches of up to 900 acres, leaving giant wounds on the timbered slopes, above the deep fiords, of the region's archipelago. With little consideration of the impact of logging on the region's abundant wildlife, trees were cut right down to the streambanks, and across steep hillsides. The resulting accumulation of debris and silt clogged the waterways, and choked salmon spawning beds. These old growth forests are essential habitat for a host of animals — including Sitka Black-tailed Deer, Bald Eagles (an Endangered Species), and Black Bear. Nearly all of the timber logged was shipped to Japan and little was processed in Alaska.

Though most of the timber land in Southeast Alaska is managed by the Forest Service as part of the Tongass National Forest, many of the recently deforested acres are private property — belonging to giant corporations whose goals include profits and who operate with even less sensitivity to the land than the Forest Service. These now denuded acres are not owned by Louisiana Pacific or Champion International, but by a new force in the Alaska corporate scene — Alaska's "first ecologists" — its native people. Since 1985 native corporations have clearcut more acres than in the excessive and well publicized cuts on the Tongass National Forest, and they did so in a way that made the Forest Service timber harvest look environmentally benign.

In 1971, with the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), the state's Indian and Eskimo people became the largest private landowners in the world. What they do with their lands will largely determine whether Alaska's wildlife and wildlands survive.

The oil discoveries of the late 1960s on Alaska's North Slope signaled the beginning of the corporate age for Alaska's aboriginal people. In order to move the oil to market, the oil companies proposed to build an 800-mile pipeline across public domain to the ice free port of Valdez. The permit application was challenged by several Alaskan native groups who claimed their aboriginal land titles had never been resolved and who intended to delay the pipeline permitting process with law suits until their concerns were addressed. In order to hasten approval of the permit, the oil companies lobbied Congress on behalf of Alaska's natives. With pressure from native groups and the oil companies, the question of Indian and Eskimo land claims was given top priority in Congress. The resulting legislation — ANCSA — called for the relinquishment of all further claims to Alaska by the state's Eskimo and Indian groups in exchange for nearly a billion dollars and ownership of 44 million acres of land. Congress also gave each village the option of a reservation, which, unlike corporation lands owned by shareholders, are held in trust by the federal government, and cannot be squandered away by unwise business decisions. Though a few villages initially agreed to accept reservation status, most later changed their position and accepted the cash payment and land selection process chosen by the vast majority of the state's aboriginal people.

Each village formed a local corporation to manage its land and investments. Also, each village was included in one of 12 regional corporations. Regional corporations were based on cultural affinities; for example, all the Eskimo villages on Alaska's North Slope were united into the Arctic Slope Borough Corporation. Both village and regional corporations could select any unappropriated public lands in the state.

Section D2 of ANCSA directed the Secretary of Interior to study and recommend to Congress up to 80 million acres for new National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and Wild Rivers. This study culminated in the passage in 1980 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). ANILCA, probably the greatest conservation legislation ever passed, provided about one-third of Alaska with some special protected status.

But these "protected lands" are riddled with private inholdings which include village and regional corporation holdings as well as individual private allotments entitled by an earlier law, the 1906 Alaska Native Allotment Act. The 1906 law allows any Alaskan native to claim up to 160 acres in four parcels that the individual has used and occupied continuously for five years. The intent was to provide a means for Alaskan natives to gain ownership of sites used for fishing, hunting, camping or other activities. ANCSA statutorily approved some of these claims, while others are still pending. Many are located within the new National Wildlife Refuges (5169 allotments), National Parks (673), and scattered within other public lands including Forest Service (537) and BLM (3526).

Although the Alaska Native Allotment Act only conveys title to lands applied for prior to 1972, applications are still being processed. Critics have charged that some applications are fraudulent — not based on individual prior use, but on future potential financial value; i.e., individuals are attempting to gain control of strategically located lands that will be highly salable in the future. Many non-natives also own inholdings within these Refuges and Parks, thereby adding to the problem.

Thus despite the sweeping nature of ANILCA, there's was an Achille's Heel in it, for ANCSA had imposed few restrictions on land selections made by native corporations or individuals. As access improves throughout Alaska and development of private lands becomes more profitable, selections made within the boundaries of Parks, Preserves and Wildlife Refuges will likely become the focus of future environmental battles. Indeed, the selections process is not complete; much of the selected land has not yet been conveyed to the natives. Hence, we may reasonably fear an intensification of the problem of checkerboard patterns of land ownership in Alaska, a problem which obviates sensible long-term management of Alaska lands.

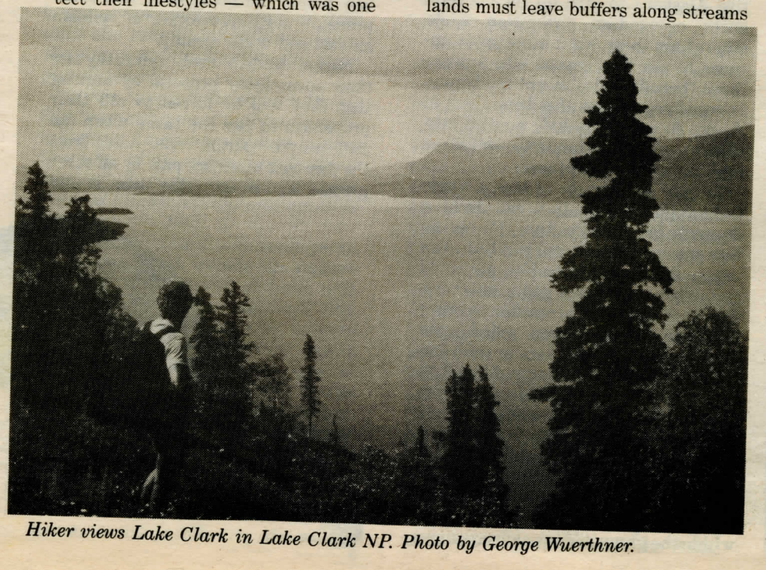
However, it must be admitted that there was some logic to the carte blanche approach to native land selections. Many of the proposed Parks and Preserves were to be located immediately adjacent to existing villages, or even surrounding communities; the most accessible lands and logical choice for village and individual selections were those nearby. In addition, land selections within D2 areas were condoned because most Congressional members assumed that native groups would pick those lands that had subsistence hunting and fishing values to protect their lifestyles — which was one of the stated goals of both ANCSA and ANILCA and was not seen as a threat to the general purpose of the preserves. But in the end, although subsistence use did influence land selection decisions, much of the acreage chosen by native corporations had some known or suspected valuable natural resource — timber, minerals, oil, coal, or recreational assets — and these lands were often inside or immediately adjacent to lands set aside to preserve their scenic, wildlife, or wilderness values.

In addition to gaining ownership of a major portion of Alaska, the native corporations invested heavily in existing business inside and outside of the state including hotels, banks, airlines, and construction companies. To give the new corporations an advantage over existing businesses, Congress authorized a 20-year tax free grace period to end in 1991.

But even with government financing and tax free status, some native corporations have lost millions of dollars and incurred huge debts. Part of this has resulted from the lack of business experience of native leaders, who went from being village spokesmen to corporate presidents overnight. Native corporations, anxious to employ their own people, preferentially hired natives as workers and managers. Although this did have the benefit of involving natives in the day to day operations of their businesses, it also entailed giving many workers jobs for which they had no preparation. This resulted in inefficiencies and poor management which translated into business losses. In addition to these problems, some native leaders took advantage of their positions by paying themselves excessive salaries, practicing nepotism and engaging in political maneuvering — all at the expense of the corporate shareholders, Alaska's native people. But not all losses can be blamed on poor management; native corporations had to contend with many factors beyond their control, such as the prices of oil and timber, which greatly influenced corporate success or failure.

Although there were failures, many native business ventures were successful and these corporations are now a major business influence in the state. They have a big stake in keeping Alaska booming, which is one reason why nearly all native corporations are lobbying Congress to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil development.

In keeping with the tendency to select resource valuable lands, Southeast Alaska village and regional corporations picked 470,000 acres from the Tongass National Forest with the largest stands of old growth timber, and began to rapidly liquidate them. As private lands, the properties of native corporations do not have to conform to the environmental regulations, however weak, that presently govern timber harvest on federal lands. On federal lands, clearcuts may not exceed 100 acres; private lands have no such protection. While timber harvesters on federal lands must leave buffers along streams to protect fisheries, cutters on native lands often leave no buffer. While timber harvested on federal lands in Alaska must at least be marginally processed in Alaska to provide local jobs; native timber can be sold directly as raw logs to Japan, greatly increasing its desirability for purchasers since it is less costly than timber that must be processed in Alaska.



Hiker views Lake Clark in Lake Clark NP. Photo by George Wuerthner.

Although native corporations own only a small percentage of the total land base of Southeast Alaska, they own the most biologically significant lands. Given the opportunity to select lands from throughout the National Forest, native leaders chose the most productive in terms of timber. These areas — the bottomlands along rivers, along tidal estuaries, etc. — are also the most valuable wildlife habitat; hence logging of these areas does a disproportionate amount of environmental damage.

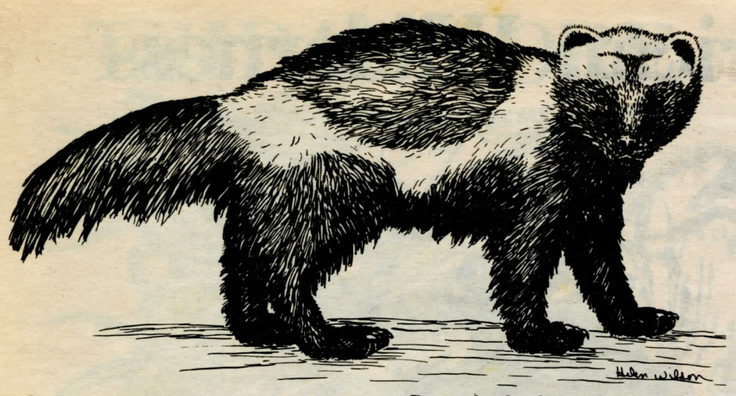
As each village corporation began to cut its timber, native groups sometimes were pitted against each other. For example, the native corporation of Sitka, Shee-Atika, selected 20,000 acres on Admiralty Island National Monument. When the people of Angoon village on Admiralty Island learned that Shee-Atika planned to log their village selection lands, Angoon joined the Sierra Club in filing a suit to stop the cut. In the environmental media Angoon natives were often billed as the "good guys" who were concerned that logging would ruin their subsistence lifestyle and destroy the sacredness of the land. Yet the Angoon village corporation is clearcutting its own timber stands located to the south on Prince of Wales Island — apparently these old growth stands are not as sacred as those surrounding their village. I suspect the hypocrisy displayed by Angoon's logging is ignored in the environmental press because it would tarnish the image conservationists wish to hold of native people as the "first ecologists."

Ironically, conservation groups worked for years to keep the Forest Service from logging Admiralty, and its designation as a National Monument was supported to protect its magnificent forests. Conservationists never expected Indian logging; and what little control they had on federal lands, they lost when natives gained private control of these lands.

Many people who learn about the native corporation rape of old growth forests assume this is an isolated aberration of an otherwise environmentally sensitive people; but timber is not the only resource native groups are developing. The Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC) owns the sub-surface rights to the Arctic Plain (the Arctic Plain, Coastal Plain, and North Slope are different names for the same area between the Brooks Range and the Beaufort Sea) in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which they obtained in a trade for land now part of the Gates of the Arctic National Park. The land traded to the Park Service had been heavily used by Eskimos of Anaktuvuk Pass for hunting and camping. Though ASRC, like other native groups, rhetorically trumpets its commitment to preservation of subsistence lifestyles, it nevertheless traded hunting grounds of its own people for sub-surface mineral rights within the Arctic Refuge. According to a recent article in the *New York Times*, other native corporations have jumped on the oil bandwagon and are also attempting to trade portions of their holdings for sub-surface mineral rights within the Refuge.

Oil companies and native corporations make strange bedfellows, but native leaders have joined ranks with the oil companies to lobby Congress for development of the Arctic Wildlife Refuge. A slick promotional brochure produced by ASRC shows Caribou feeding next to oil rigs and says, "ASRC and its contractors and consultants believe that the Kaktovik properties and the Coastal Plain should, as a matter of national policy, be opened by the Congress to further exploration and to development." Indeed, in 1984 when the US Fish and Wildlife Service refused to grant a permit to begin exploratory drilling within the Refuge, ASRC leased a drill site to Chevron on one of its land parcels — which as private property did not require government approval.

Lest one think that among native groups only the Arctic Slope Corporation is corrupted, let's review plans of



the Doyon Regional Corporation, based in Fairbanks. Among its holdings Doyon owns lands in and surrounding the Yukon-Charley National Preserve and has selected oil rich land in the Kandik Basin. Atlantic Richfield has secured exploration and development rights from Doyon, and Doyon has indicated it might request road access across Preserve lands for movement of equipment to develop these holdings.

Just east of the Preserve boundary on Slate Creek near the Fortymile River, Alaska's largest Wild and Scenic River segment, Doyon owns huge asbestos deposits. This area is currently roadless and wild, but Doyon plans to build a community that will eventually house 2500 to 5000 people if the asbestos deposits are mined as planned. In addition to bringing an influx of new people, the development would require construction of a new road along the North Fork of the Fortymile — now a Wild River which by legal definition cannot accommodate a road and remain "Wild." (The Fortymile has many branches, which include portions designated Recreational, portions designated Scenic, and portions designated Wild. All of the North Fork and most of the main branch of the Fortymile are designated Wild — the strongest classification under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.) To protect access along its proposed road route and to avoid having to meet possible government restrictions which might force Doyon to choose a more expensive route, Doyon has stopped native selections along the right of way.

Doyon also plans to develop coal deposits within the Yukon-Charley Preserve and to use the coal to generate power to support the asbestos mine and community. The power plant would be built on the border of the Preserve and would degrade the Preserve's Class 1 air status. Doyon is considering stringing powerlines across the Preserve to provide power to the proposed oil fields in the Kandik Basin.

One of the village corporations which makes up the Doyon Corporation is the Hungwitchin Village Corporation of Eagle. Hungwitchin owns lands within the Yukon-Charley National Preserve on the Tatonduk River. The rugged mountains along the beautiful Tatonduk have known oil shale deposits and the corporation tentatively plans to develop these deposits. There is also talk of a second-home recreational development in this part of the Preserve.

Recreational home development is already occurring on the shores of Lake Clark in the 4.5 million acre Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. [A National Preserve, like a National Park, is managed by the National Park Service, but is less strictly protected; Parks are off-limits to most hunting, while Preserves are not. The Lake Clark area includes lands under each designation.] After native selections were completed, more than 75% of the shoreline of the 55-mile-long mountain rimmed lake became *privately owned* by native corporations or individuals. No trespassing signs now mar the shoreline. When I kayaked around the lake in 1985, I was approached on three occasions by Indians in motorboats to tell me not to trespass.

Kijik Corporation (Nondalton village) is presently selling 2.5-acre tracts on Keyes Point, a long forested peninsula in the southern portion of Lake Clark. Roads, runways and various structures are now being built. Kijik's sales brochure says, "Keyes Point, Lake Clark has attracted an elite group of Alaskans who recognize a rare opportunity and know the significance of owning property in a National Park and Preserve . . . . limited lake front parcels from $18,000 to $104,000."

Presently, development is limited to the Keyes Point area, but native inholdings totaling more than 600,000 acres (nearly the size of Yosemite National Park) are scattered throughout the Park — most of which include prime development sites such as level cabin sites, the mouths of fishing streams, and timbered islands. Much of the land in Lake Clark Park and Preserve owned by the public is similar to our Wilderness System — the rocks, ice and bogs no developers wanted. Other National Parks in Alaska have similar native and non-native private inholdings, including mining claims, and previously existing homesites. In the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park these inholdings total more than a million acres! So far, crossing private lands to reach public lands has usually been no problem, but in future years one can expect public access to be more restricted.

This interspersal of private lands among large blocks of public lands complicates long term land management, particularly since ANILCA guarantees road access, if no reasonable alternative exists and even across designated Wilderness, to private inholdings within any Alaska Park, Preserve or Refuge. NANA Native Corporation recently gained permission to build a 55-mile road across Cape Krusenstern National Monument to its mineral claims at the Red Dog Mine near the Noatak Preserve. Little opposition was expressed to the proposed road by environmental groups. One wonders whether the permit have been granted so easily if the road had been proposed by Chevron or Asarco.

It is important to stress that not all natives support the activities of their own corporations any more than all US citizens support the US Forest Service management of the National Forests. There are Indians in Southeast Alaska opposed to the present clearcutting on native corporation lands. Some Eskimos opposed oil drilling on the North Slope. Some Indians believe it is wrong to divide land into parcels to sell. But that does not substantially alter the fact that native groups have the ability, and now the power and money, to exploit Alaska's natural resources; and some of them are doing so with little criticism from the environmental community.

The inconsistent logic with which we view native developments also applies to our acceptance of what is commonly called "subsistence hunting." By federal law only Alaskan natives can kill marine mammals. This double standard was put in the Marine Mammal Protection Act, under the assumption that only Alaskan natives need to kill sea mammals for food, whereas non-native Alaskans — even those who live a rural subsistence lifestyle — have no similar need. Beyond this reverse discrimination, the native exemption to the Marine Mammal Act permits commercial harvest.

Until the Fur Seal Convention was rejected in 1985, Aleut people on the Pribilof Islands killed about 20,000 Fur Seals annually for commercial sales. These seals were killed primarily for their pelts, genital parts which are sold as aphrodisiacs, and for dog food. A small amount of meat was used for direct human consumption. The Fur Seals were clubbed to death, as in the well-publicized Harp Seal harvests off the Newfoundland Coast — which the public knows about perhaps because non-native fishermen do the killing. Undeniably both the Newfoundland fishermen and the Aleuts live in harsh lands where few other employment opportunities exist, but the 700 Pribilof Islanders had little reason to continue the clubbing since they have enjoyed government benefits — including 20 million dollars received in 1983 to develop an economy independent of sealing — totaling $133 million, or about $190,000 per person! Little opposition to these seal hunts was raised by environmental or animal rights groups. The US government subsidized the "hunt" by purchasing all the hides at a guaranteed price!

The only group I know of that took the Pribilof seal clubbers to task is Greenpeace; but even Greenpeace was much less harsh in their criticism of the Aleuts than of the Newfoundland fishermen. Without discussing the issue of whether the hunts hurt the seal populations, my point is that native groups enjoy more tolerance of environmentally disruptive behavior than do other subsets of society.

Other marine mammals have also been hunted for market by Alaskan natives with immunity from censure. In 1984, for example, natives killed 3981 Walrus and 283 Polar Bear. While some of these animals are used for food, much of the killing is done for commercial purposes. Ivory tusks are carved and sold to tourists or sold illegally through the international ivory market, and Polar Bear hides are sold for rugs or other decorative purposes.

Marine mammals are not the only wild animals killed for commercial reasons. On the Seward Peninsula, NANA Native Corporation imported Reindeer to raise commercially. The meat and horns are both sold — primarily to the Orient. Like any good rancher, native Reindeer herders have declared war on predators and shoot Gray Wolves to protect herds. Environmental groups that would be outraged if a rancher in Montana shot a Wolf to protect his cattle, blithely accept the same actions when the shooting is done by an Indian or Eskimo.

Part of our willingness to accept these depredations stems from misconceptions we have about Alaskan natives, who we believe live a rustic lifestyle — driving dogsleds, trapping furs, hunting seals. To be sure, some of these activities still occur, but they are not nearly as essential to the day to day survival of the native as was true even in the recent past. Isolation is a relative term in the Alaskan bush nowadays. Several jets a day connect larger Eskimo towns like Kotzebue with Anchorage or Fairbanks, while even the smallest villages are served by regular bush air service. Nearly all villages have phone service, sewers, running water, post offices, and schools — many complete with swimming pools. You are more likely to catch an Indian or Eskimo sitting in his living room watching TV than out tracking a Polar Bear or Moose. Cultural assimilation is deep and widespread. This was exemplified for me by a group of Indian boys in a "remote" village whom I watched choosing sides for a game of cowboys and Indians. None of the kids wanted to be the "Indians!"

Although jobs are few and living costs high, survival is possible due to the many government assistance programs, including (for some natives) housing, free medical care, free heating oil, even free airplane tickets to Anchorage and Fairbanks to shop. This outside input of energy has upset whatever natural balance existed in the past. People no longer starve and child mortality is reduced, while fertility rates among Alaska's natives are well above the national average. In fact, some native leaders believe birth control is a form of racial genocide, and having babies is promoted.

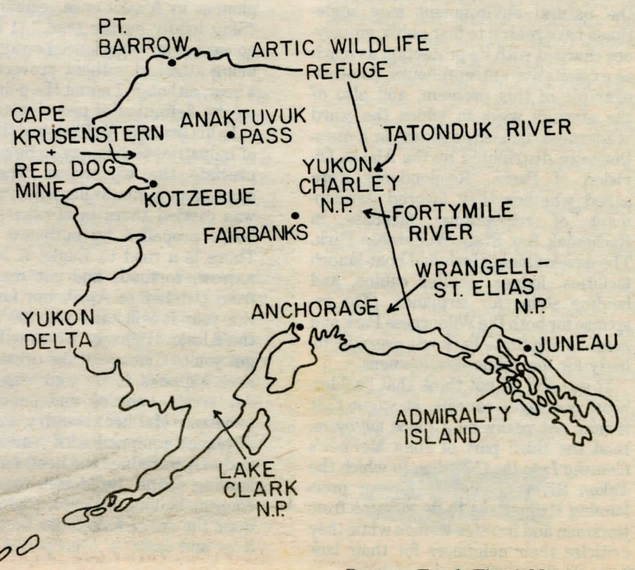
In addition, modern weapons and transportation have enhanced the efficiency of "subsistence" activities to the point that wildlife populations and other resources are threatened largely because of these activities. Yet native people enjoy a much more lenient attitude toward exploitation of natural resources using modern technological advantages than is accepted for non-natives.

The recent decline of three species of goose that nest on Alaska's Yukon-Kuskokwim delta and migrate to California wintering grounds can be traced to our naive view of aboriginal people. Cackling Canada Geese declined from an estimated 384,000 birds in 1965 to 26,000 in 1983. Black Brant nesting populations in the Yukon Delta Wildlife Refuge declined from 67,800 in 1981 to 16,300 by 1984. White-fronted Goose numbers in the Pacific Flyway dropped from 495,000 in 1967 to 93,900 by 1985. Although populations normally fluctuate, these downward slides are unusual in that they have continued for more than a decade and show no signs of reversal (although the Canada Goose population rose slightly to 32,100 in 1985).

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) investigated factors that might cause the decline. First, killing of migratory birds by hunters outside of Alaska was sharply reduced; but goose numbers continued to fall. Second, loss of winter habitat was studied; and, although recognized as a continuing problem, it was determined not to be the main culprit. Finally, FWS studied Alaskan native "subsistence" hunting and found this to be the biggest direct cause of mortality. Unlike non-natives, even those living permanently in the Alaskan bush, Alaskan natives are allowed to hunt waterfowl year-round — even on the birds' nesting grounds and during their summer molt when they are flightless and especially vulnerable. Natives are also permitted to collect eggs from the nests. The Fish and Wildlife Service has attempted to persuade natives to forgo hunting the geese, but with limited success. FWS cannot require native hunters to cease their harvest even when the species in question are Endangered Species. It can only attempt to cajole the hunters into cooperating.

Many natives and their supporters justify exceptions to environmental regulations such as the Endangered Species Act by claiming that it is the white culture that is out of balance while native people live in harmony with the land. This belief ignores major changes that have occurred among technologically primitive people throughout the world. For example, while Alaskan natives have the shortest life expectancy, highest infant mortality, and highest suicide rates of any racial groups in the state, modern health care has allowed a proportionally higher number of children to survive into adulthood than in any previous time in their history. There are probably more Indians and Eskimos in Alaska today than in pre-contact days. Even if all the non-native people left the state, the meager

continued on page 21



The End of American Wilderness

by Morgan Sherwood

Environmental historians should face the problem of wilderness, which is a problem of definition, or of the failure to frame our analysis of wilderness precisely. If historians continue to treat wilderness only as an idea, the meaning of which has changed over time, they will have little to contribute to the preservation of natural environments and, *reductio ad absurdum*, "wilderness" will become a city park or perhaps a suburban lawn. Historiographically, wilderness will cease to be a place or even an idea and become only a word. Maybe it already has.

My thesis may be stated simply: We are in the wilderness about wilderness. The central reason for the confusion is our inability or reluctance to treat technology as a crucial factor. To argue the case, I will assay a number of definitions of wilderness, and indicate the failure of these definitions to define what is called wilderness in Alaska (not always officially designated wilderness units), given the availability of certain technologies. In the conclusion, I will deal briefly with policy for existing natural environments.

But first, if you do not think that the meaning of wilderness has become too vague, your attention is called to the title of a recent TV documentary about Alaska, narrated by Lorne Green and entitled "New Wilderness," as though our lawmakers can declare an area "wilderness" and make it so, as though wilderness can be "new." The Kachemak Bay Wilderness Lodge, a few miles across the bay from the town of Homer, has been listed as America's best wilderness lodge in Sterling Publications' "America's Best 100"; apparently, the trail to wilderness lodges is brightly blazed by their own version of the Michelin guidebook. Still another example of confusion over the meaning of wilderness comes from a summer issue of the *Homer News*.

An Alaska Wilderness Marathon was planned for the Kenai Peninsula last summer. It would cross 50 miles of the Kenai National Moose Range, through which motorized access was requested to set up a check point. Runners could carry portable rafts, tents and other modern accoutrements needed to "rough it" outdoors. Michael Hedrick, manager of the refuge, denied a permit saying, "There have to be places where some species of wildlife have top billing." The organizer of the race was a biologist with the Alaska State Fish and Game Department; he responded: "I deal with environmental issues every day and this just isn't an environmental issue." He said that a dog sled race was held in the Gates of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge last year, and argued: Why not a marathon through the Kenai Moose Range? Ted Stevens, one of Alaska's US senators, told a newspaper reporter: "The agency implied that the traffic, 50 to 75 pairs of feet, running over the Resurrection Trail is too much. I couldn't buy that. If people can't walk or run in the Alaska wilderness what can be in it?"

Evidence from the wilderness marathon controversy supports the notion that citizens who wish to protect the natural environment may sometimes have reason to fear public employees charged with its protection as much as exploitative entrepreneurs. Another example of this problem, and also of the strange ways in which the word 'wilderness' is used, appears in a questionnaire distributed by the Alaska Division of Parks. Respondents were asked whether they favored development of recreational facilities in Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park. The developments included boat-launch facilities, lodges, shelter cabins, and landing strips for airplanes. (The response for both the Wilderness Park and neighboring State Park was overwhelmingly for low or no development.)

If you still do not think that "wilderness" is a vague concept, so vague that it may not really be a place anymore, read the third part of John McPhee's *Coming Into the Country*, in which the Yukon River people are forever proclaiming themselves to be genuine frontiersmen and frontier women while they criticize their neighbors for their lack of ennobling frontier virtues. One of them characterizes another as more frontiersman-like because he hand-loads his ammunition. The hand-loader thinks that *how much* technology is the issue. He is correct but the insight dissolves when he says: "people who have tried to get away from technology completely have always failed. Meanwhile, what this place has to offer is wilderness that is nowhere else." One may read that part of McPhee's book as an attempt to determine how much technology is permissible in a wilderness, and to measure it by the amount of technology available where civilization ends, which supports my thesis that technology is the crucial variable.

Sadly, however, McPhee concludes that he must carry a gun out of fear of bears, which brings us to solitude, one quality invoked to identify wilderness. According to this definition, wilderness provides solitude that inspires a kind of subtle unease and quiet wonder. The definition is one of a large category that dwells on the literary and psychological effects of wilderness on the individual. Wilderness (or a natural environment where one is alone) inspires poetry, impresses one philosophically with, for example, man's insignificance, tempering his destructive impulses, or inspires a kind of delicious fear. McPhee's fear of bears brings home to him a deep philosophical contradiction. He writes: "If bears were no longer in the country, I would not have come. I am here . . . because they survive. So I am sorry — truly rueful and perplexed — that without a means of killing them I cannot feel at ease." McPhee thought he needed a gun to travel alone in a natural environment relatively unpopulated by other humans. He might have carried a toy cap pistol to frighten the animal, or more mundanely, a couple of saucepans to rattle the bears. Better still, using no technology whatever, he might have done what a Swedish-American pioneer in Alaska once recommended: "Sing loudly on the trail." (I know of no case of an experienced outdoorsman being attacked without provocation by a bear, although I admit the point hangs on the definition of provocation.)

In his firearm, McPhee had the power of industrial technology to help him appreciate the wilderness. There was more than a gun in his wilderness. He was carried there in airplanes and in boats propelled by outboard motors. There is a road to Eagle; it is gravel, narrow, tortuous and not maintained from October to April, but for half of the year it will take you 160 miles to the Alaska Highway, which will in turn get you to Chicago (if the urban wilderness happens to be your cup of tea). All-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles penetrate McPhee's country, along with airplanes equipped with "tundra tires" and skis to reduce the need for cleared landing strips. Bulldozers tear up the country looking for gold, chainsaws reduce the spare forests for fuel, just as axes and saws — even power saws at an early date — did to feed steamboats from the late 19th century to quite recent times. Voices fill the radio waves to reduce still further the isolation from urban environments. Probably, like many rural Alaskans, some of McPhee's people have erected satellite antennae for TV reception of the same adolescent inanities that are inflicted on the remainder of American society.

There is no solitude (read "wilderness") if an aircraft may thunder overhead at any time and land, if a skiff with a noisy outboard motor may splash by your "wilderness" beach, if jet boats ignore low water to crunch over sandbars on their way up a remote stream, if a snowmobile marathon can scatter wildlife, if a bear's misunderstood ferocity can be silenced by a bullet before the animal's intentions are determined. So much for solitude as a sign of wilderness, given the widespread use of modern technology.

In one sense, solitude is only a variation of Frederick Jackson Turner's famous criterion. According to him, the frontier disappears, and by implication wilderness too, when a certain man-land ratio changes. Turner and the Superintendent of the Census of 1890 "regarded as unsettled" any area with less than two inhabitants in a square mile. The number of square miles per person in Alaska dropped, between 1880 and 1980, from a high of 18.3 square miles in 1890 to 1.45 in 1980. By this measure, Alaska, as a whole, is still a frontier region. But that conclusion is unsatisfactory for a couple reasons. First, the method is arbitrary, and fails to account for the distribution of population. As recently as 1950, the population of Alaska was only 27% urban; now the population is about 50-50, urban-rural. Most of the urbanites and suburbanites live in an area embracing Anchorage, part of the Kenai Peninsula, and the lower Matanuska and Susitna river valleys near the big city. The concentration of population means that large areas of Alaska are sparsely settled; with a low man-land ratio, they may qualify as wilderness. However, such areas are *accessible* with modern transportation technologies, and *vulnerable* if other technologies employed in the war against nature are introduced. One person could make a mess of his one square mile even in 1890. Imagine what a bulldozer operator can do to a square mile nowadays. Instead of counting people in rural areas, machines should be counted in the entire area which they may affect.

Scrappy data on airplanes will illustrate the importance of counting machines that permit access to what people call wilderness. As early as 1944, 62 airplanes were used by hunting parties flying out of Anchorage, a city of perhaps 6000 or 7000 people then. In one month of 1945, Merrill Field, the town's airstrip, had 10,000 landings and take-offs, more than LaGuardia Field in New York City. There were 29 "air carriers" operating out of Anchorage in 1947, or about one air service for 325 people in town. These were mainly bush pilots, taking people to and from natural environments. In 1956, 77% of the hunters who traveled by air were successful in attempting to kill caribou from the Nelchina herd; only 20% of the hunters traveling on foot were successful, although they came a long part of the way by auto. Later regulations prohibited aircraft from driving animals to exhaust them and make them easier to kill, and also prohibited herding animals to landing places, shooting from the air, and spotting (locating) animals from the air. Spotting is still common. In 1960 there was one aircraft for every 194 Alaskans, including children, and in 1967 there was one for every 100 persons. That year, one in 50 residents had a pilot's license, and Lake Hood in Anchorage was the largest seaplane base in the US. A Federal Aviation Administration pamphlet describing all of this is entitled *The Alaskan Region: A Family Affair.*

Counting machines is not the most dramatic way to argue that accessibility made possible by modern technology is the important determinant of wilderness status. Instead, consider a place which would, at first thought, be chosen by many people as the least accessible spot in Alaska: the slopes of Mt. McKinley, the tallest mountain in North America. Surely, "Denali" (as romantics prefer to call the mountain) can be "regarded as unsettled" and offers the psychological rewards of solitude. Not necessarily true, during the summer months. In 1970, 124 people were on the mountain, in 1976 nearly 600, a number topped in each of the next four years. During early May of 1983, perhaps 200 people were already on the mountain or waiting for an air taxi to fly them from Talkeetna to Kahiltna Glacier, elevation 7000-8000 feet. This year one pilot told a reporter: "Packing the plane is like loading a sports car for a two-week vacation." Size and distance is difficult to estimate from Kahiltna Glacier except during climbing season, when perspective is provided by other mountaineers; in the words of the pilot, "you can see people coming into view . . . and you can see them all day long." From Kahiltna Glacier, climbing parties may be guided as high as 14,000 feet. The mountain reaches 20,300 feet in elevation. One guide climbed it 25 times. If you do not have the physical stamina it takes to ascend Mt. McKinley, you can sightsee around the mountain by airplane, or fly to a camp on Ruth Glacier that offers sled dog tours.

A third definition of wilderness refers to the biological integrity of an area and the absence of man and his works. In the Wilderness Act of 1964, that means an area "where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man . . .," an area which "generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable." How noticeable are the works of man, his technology, in remote areas of Alaska? In answer to that question, this paper should, but will not, discuss the greenhouse effect on the earth's climate, or "Arctic haze," or the sight and the sound of airliners flying the Great Circle Route between Europe and Asia.

Instead, a single example will suffice here to demonstrate that man's work is ubiquitous.

The example is Anaktuvuk Pass, in the Brooks Range, and its residents in 1963, included a five-year-old Eskimo girl named Dorothy Ahgook. In that year the *Tundra Times* reported unhappily that Dorothy had "the highest, or one of the highest radiation counts of any person in the United States." Her sister had a high count too. The village council was told by a representative of the Atomic Energy Commission that "whole body counts" of radiation — strontium 90 and cesium 137 — had increased substantially in Anaktuvuk. A reporter for the *Tundra Times* claimed that residents had "about 40 times the amount of radiation absorbed by the average US citizen," another record for Anaktuvuk.

The problem was ecological. Radioactive debris from the atmospheric testing of nuclear bombs had been carried by air currents over the Arctic. Common plants of the tundra, lichens and sedges, got their nutrients from dust in the air as it fell with rain and snow, not from the soil, and stored what they absorbed. Migrating caribou had several times as much strontium 90 as the flesh of cattle elsewhere in the US. The Eskimos of Anaktuvuk relied heavily on caribou for food. Among some Alaskan Natives, the marrow of caribou bone is especially favored.

What the long-range effects are of overdosing radiation by the people of Anaktuvuk is not clear. Events there did help to cancel the Atomic Energy Commission's Project Chariot, to blow a hole on the Arctic coast east of Anaktuvuk. Opposition to Project Chariot united northern Alaskan Eskimos politically for the first time and led to publication of the *Tundra Times*, which became an influential voice for Eskimo causes. (Physicist Edward Teller, in promoting Chariot, told an Anchorage audience jokingly: "If your mountain is not in the right place, just drop us a card.") Anaktuvuk Pass is now the principal village in Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, though not in an area designated wilderness. The village is just north of Mt. Doonerak, made famous by Robert Marshall, founder of The Wilderness Society. Residents still hunt, fish and gather in the region. The *Alaska Geographic* reported in 1981: "A desire to maintain cultural integrity for Native communities and rural life styles within the newly created national parks generated provisions [in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980] to continue subsistence activities including hunting, fishing and trapping using motorized vehicles such as snow machines and motorboats where traditionally practiced." And so much for the natural biological integrity of wilderness areas, where man's technology is unnoticeable.

The fourth and final characteristic of wilderness considered here is the oldest, in many ways the most attractive and, at first glance, the easiest way to identify wilderness. In this scheme, wilderness is measured by the presence of wildlife, especially the large animals, living more or less as they did before the appearance of mechanized man. The abundance and variety of wild creatures in a natural environment defines the wilderness condition.

Most of the wild species that were in Alaska when the Russians came in 1741 are still there, though certain species have been threatened over time, for example, the whales, fur seals and otter at sea, and large mammals on land during the gold rushes. One may still see the giant Kenai moose going its own way, and the formidable Kodiak brown bear still ranges the island after which it was named. But "things are not what they seem." The presence of wildlife in Alaska is due to the rise of conservation as a potent political movement; and a social institution — wildlife management — created to achieve the goals of conservationists has itself become heavily dependent on technology. Not even the brown bear, once called by DeWitt Clinton, "the ferocious tyrant of the American Woods," can count on roaming freely in its territory without being shot with a tranquilizer, tagged and equipped with a radio transmitter.

Management of Alaska's wild animals began long before such high technology was available, and predates wildlife management as a profession. In the 1830s, the Russians introduced conservation practices to the Pribilof Island fur seal rookeries. The US, after 1870, also regulated the killing of fur seals on land. The decisions of both governments followed periods of indiscriminate slaughter. Alaska's first game laws were a response to wholesale destruction of edible wildlife during the gold rushes northward in the late 19th century and early 20th. A decision made late in the 19th century to import reindeer from Siberia for the relief of Eskimos suffering from the commercial depletion of marine mammals contributed to a little-publicized ecological disaster. The reindeer competed with the native caribou for browse, overgrazing the range. Both populations crashed dramatically in the 1930s and 1940s. Meantime, the federal Alaska Game Commission policed the health of other wildlife, a job made easier by the low human population.

Major demographic, economic, political and technological changes occurred during and after World War II. "Traditional" uses of aircraft, snowmobiles and motorboats became common *after* the war. The population tripled, federal spending for defense boomed the economy, and the new state of Alaska assumed management of its resources in 1959, when public support of science was more generous than it had been before the war. High-tech wildlife biology came to Alaska with these changes. The Eskimos were not uniformly delighted.

The *Tundra Times*, in 1966, reported that two investigators from eastern universities had killed several polar bears while conducting a scientific experiment. The two biologists came to Alaska to develop methods of immobilizing bears in order to tag them and, eventually, attach radio transmitters which would be monitored by satellite and thus track the animal. Two airplanes were used, one to spot the bear; when spotted, another airplane would deposit the scientists ahead and return to help the first aircraft herd the bear toward the waiting savants, who were armed with a rifle and tranquilizing dart, or syringe. The syringe was loaded with succinylcholine chloride; the size of the dose was determined by an estimate of the bear's size, made by the pilot of the spotter airplane. When the bear was chased, perhaps exhausted, within range, it was shot with the dart, then marked with a long-lasting red dye. 'Spattered' would be a better word than 'marked'; the dye could not be sprayed on because of low temperatures so it was dumped on the animal's backside.

The first polar bear to be anaesthetized stirred during the handling and was given another dose of succinylcholine chloride; it died. The second bear was "marked recovered," the scientists reported; it may be the bear that was shot soon thereafter by a hunter who easily could have spotted its red posterior on the white landscape. (The hunter was distressed because the fur was spoiled.) A third bear was not immobilized. The fourth bear that was hit died in five minutes; the fifth in ten minutes; the sixth in 25 minutes. Succinylcholine chloride had no effect on the next two bears, according to the two investigators. They also anaesthetized two other polar bears, but their data about these animals are incomplete. The score: four bears killed and three immobilized and marked, one of which was shot by a hunter shortly thereafter. The experiment was reported at a national conference and in *Scientific American*. Newspaper reports emphasized the derring-do. Whether any science needed to protect the polar bear emerged from the carnage (as both biologists firmly believe) is moot because the effect of the drug on large animals apparently was known before the episode.

More than 3000 polar bears have been immobilized, marked and studied worldwide since then, out of a total population estimated at 20,000-25,000. Alaska's polar bears number either 6000 to 9000 animals, or 3000 to 5000, depending upon the expert you consult. The discrepancies suggest that all of the capturing and tracking can only have been partially successful. The presence of scientists in the polar bears' Alaskan wilderness has not even resulted in a wildlife management program for the animal. The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 gave supervision of polar bears to the federal government. Sport hunting was prohibited but Congress allowed Natives the right to hunt the animal using "traditional" methods at any time, without bag limits and with no protection for females and cubs. Products made from the bear's skin may be sold, reviving the specter of market hunting which wildlife protectionists thought they had banished decades ago. Clearly, the polar bear is not "master of the northern ice," as a federal biologist titled his article about Nanook. Man and his technology are.

Biologists continue to drug and tag Alaska's wild animals and to equip them with radios. An article in *Alaska* magazine by a state biologist entitled, "Wildlife That Goes Beep-beep," describes how transmitters have been attached to brown bears, black bears, polar bears, caribou, moose, wolves, walruses, and geese. Another article in the same magazine reports how the Forest Service and the State Department of Fish and Game moved mountain goats by helicopter to a place where they could be seen by tourists from a highway. The reclusive animals were tranquilized with a dart shot from a helicopter, examined, tagged and then carried in a net by helicopter to a place where motorists could better appreciate the Kenai "wilderness."

"Darting wildlife from the air is tricky," said one biologist. "A goat can travel some distance in the seven to eight minutes it takes the drug to work . . . If a goat reaches a steep slope before going down, chances of retrieving it are slim."

The state undertook an investigation during the 1970s to explain the disappearance of moose from an area in the interior that is not officially a wilderness unit. Moose is a favorite game meat of Alaskans. The wolves were blamed by the hunters, and when the state decided to shoot some wolves, the national news media triggered a popular uproar. In the experiment, more than 100 adult moose were tranquilized and fitted with radio collars or other identification devices. One hundred twenty calves were also equipped with radios; this was accomplished by chasing the cow away with a helicopter. One hundred wolves were killed, 60 wolves were removed from the area, and another 150 were given radio collars. Twenty-three adult brown bears were also equipped with radios, and 47 were drugged and taken miles away by helicopter, plane and truck; 70% returned within 60 days. The main culprit was the brown bear, who feasted on baby moose and cut the calf survival rate which eventually reduced the population of moose.

Did this massive intrusion of technology into a natural environment end the wolf control controversy? No. It and other studies have led to specific population goals for moose, caribou and wolves in several areas. Statistics on the effects of these management practices on the individual animals are not readily available. One hopes that mortality rates are lower than they were in the polar bear experiment, or in the record of management in Yellowstone Park, where 86 grizzlies have been killed by wildlife professionals since 1970, most by drug overdoses.

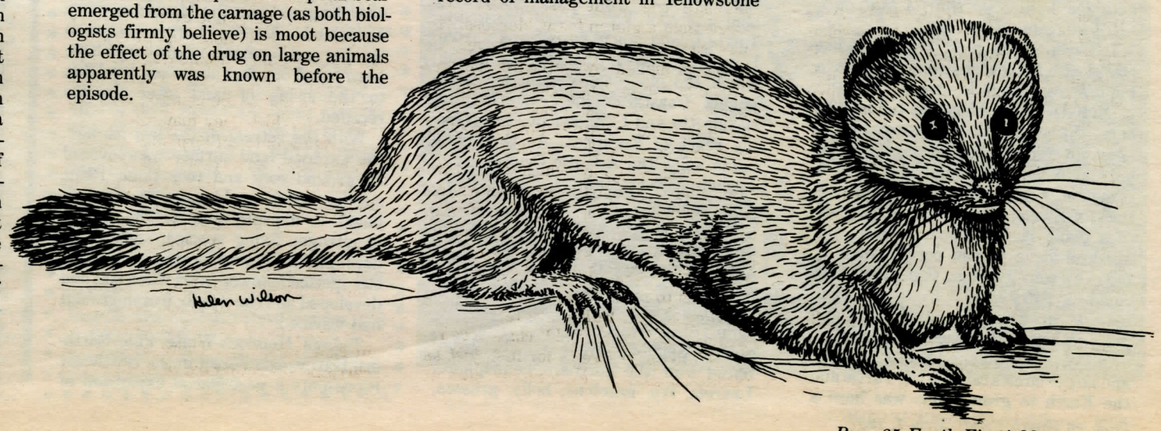
The public is apparently not alarmed by the adventures of its wildlife managers. Perhaps people have become accustomed to such activities by watching Marlin Perkins, Jacques Cousteau and William Conrad tinker with wild animals on TV. In outdoor magazines, thrilling stories by biologists confronting dangerous wild beasts often replace the bear stories of hunters. Frequently the articles feature cute pictures of, for example, a tranquilized brown bear embracing a biologist, or a giant sedated polar bear resting on the lap of a scientist. Such photographs are becoming as common in outdoor magazines as pictures of big game hunters posing with rifle and kill were in former times.

So, if you spot a mountain goat while visiting Alaska, remember that it may have been placed there for you to see, and to provide "photo opportunities" (a term that wildlife managers have borrowed from the public relations industry). If you agree with Aldo Leopold that knowledge alone of the presence of wildlife certifies an area's classification as wilderness, remember that the biggest game animal out there may have tattooed gums, a tag on its ear, and go beep-beep. Even the fish in your Alaskan wilderness may have been put there by humans. In Kachemak Bay, state biologists have planted thousands of young salmon where they cannot reproduce. The fish return at the end of their cycle, vainly searching for a fresh-water stream with gravel in which to spawn, turning red and black and decaying. Fishermen are invited to catch them by net or snag in an orgy of unsportsmanlike "taking" that would chill the spirit of Izaak Walton. The other rotting salmon are left for the eagles, ravens, and bears.

Is all of this wildlife management — or farming, or ranching, or zookeeping? Sam White was a veteran warden who pioneered the use of airplanes when he worked for the Alaska Game Commission. In the late 1970s I asked him what he considered the gravest threat to Alaskan big game. He answered in one word: "Biology." His judgment was too severe. Some reductionist science and high-tech game management may be necessary to the animals' survival. But modern technology has made "wildlife" management a contradiction in terms, and these days, the presence of indigenous animals does not necessarily identify wilderness.

In 1967 Robert Heilbronner published his controversial article which asked: "Do Machines Make History?" The answer sounded too much like technological determinism. But if machines do not always make history, machines do unmake wilderness. The lesson for policy makers is fairly clear. Just as early conservationists leaned heavily on technological obsolescence and outright prohibition of certain technologies to protect wildlife, the fisheries and national parklands, society should now move with deliberate speed to restrict the use of destructive technologies in relatively untouched natural environments. Congress should legislate off-road vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, airplanes, helicopters, snowmobiles and motor boats out of such areas, except when the machines are on rescue missions. Purchase anywhere of an off-road vehicle for recreational purposes should be considered *prima facie* evidence of intention to engage in destructive trespass, and the sale of these vehicles should be prohibited except for occupa-

continued on page 30



The Appalachian Mountains Vision and Wilderness

by Jamie Sayen

PROPOSAL: Earth First! proposes a contiguous Appalachian Wilderness reuniting the Florida Keys with the Maritimes of Canada and beyond. The "backbone," albeit plagued by slipped discs and cracked vertebrae, already exists: the Appalachian Trail (AT) which runs for over 2000 miles from northern Maine's Mt. Katahdin to northern Georgia's Springer Mountain.

Wild areas along the AT must be expanded, buffered and protected *in perpetuity* as Wilderness. Only then will the backbone support the weight of the massive wild areas throughout the eastern reaches of Turtle Island which will be joined to the AT "wilderness backbone" by means of wild corridors. In this way, Adirondack Wilderness can be linked to the AT in the Green Mountain National Forest via Lake Champlain and other riparian and terrestrial wild corridors. The Cranberry Back Country in the Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia, 50 miles as Raven flies from the AT in Virginia, will also be joined by natural corridors to the backbone. South of Springer Mountain, a connecting route to northern Florida through Georgia and Alabama will be designed so that the wilderness network for Florida proposed in *Earth First!* (Mabon 1985) can be rejoined with northern New England and Canada.

To hold together such a wide and wild country will require the sinewy strength of Panthers, Gray Wolves, and Black Bears, the resiliency of the reborn American Chestnut and the again-towering White Pines of New England. Each species native to the Appalachian Region should again exist, unmolested, in its natural habitat and in its natural patterns of abundance. Its potential to evolve as conditions change must be assured.

PROPHECY: *Many winters ago, our wise ancestors predicted that a great monster, with white eyes, would come from the east, and, as he advanced, would consume the land. This monster is the white race, and the prediction is near its fulfillment. They advised their children, when they became weak, to plant a tree with four roots, branching to the north, the south, the east and the west; and then collecting under its shade, to dwell together in unity and harmony. This tree, I propose, shall be this very spot. Here we will gather, here live, and here die.* — O-no-sa, quoted in Lewis Morgan's *League of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee*, p.277.

VISION: Plant two great trees, an American Chestnut and a Northern White Pine. Reaching above the sky, they are woven together by a rainbow. Beneath the endless canopy a rippling breeze teases the stillness. Throughout the mysterious Appalachians of Turtle Island, a Spirit, fleshed, returns from exile.

returns did I say? from exile?

He drove us far away, but he could not drive away our Spirits. He can move mountains, if he wishes, and scar our Mother's Breast with his iron plow. And, in his blindness, not seeing us, think that we live no more. Now it is his night, and he thinks he is all alone. But in the Splendid Mountains, the Deep Forests, and Cascading Streams, the Lakes and Rivers, Glens and Glades with Singing Springs — all are pulsing with the Returning Spirits that once filled this Abundant Land.

In darkness, no more tears for what was lost. A new evening dawns; a Panther roaring in the night.

ORIGINS: The Mohawks tell us that once Mother Earth was in total darkness, covered by a boundless ocean. The only animals were water dwellers. A pregnant woman fell from the sky. A flock of Swans placed her on the back of a giant Turtle. Loon, Beaver, and Muskrat dove to the ocean's floor to bring up some earth so that the woman could have dry land to live upon. They brought up a small clod of earth and placed it on Turtle's back, but lost their own lives. The woman walked in larger and larger circles causing the Turtle and the Earth to grow. Thus was born a great continent on the back of that Turtle — Turtle Island, misnamed North America by European invaders.

View from Mt. Equinox to Bear Mt., Taconic Mts. Vermont; by G. Wuerthner.

Geologists tell us that many times a part or all of North America was recovered by ancient seas.

According to the Cherokees, the Earth, in the beginning, was flat, soft, and moist. The animals, living in crowded conditions above the rainbow, were eager to live on it, but it was still too soft to support the weight of birds. So they sent Grandfather Eagle down. He flew very close to the soft Earth, but when he reached the future home of the Cherokees, he discovered that the mud was hardening. By now Eagle was tired and dragging close to the Earth. When he flapped his wings down, they made a valley where they touched the Earth; when he swept them up, they made a mountain. Concerned that there would only be mountains if he continued, the animals watching from above the rainbow called him back. That is why there are so many mountains in Cherokee land.

The Blue Ridge Mountains are the oldest component of the Appalachians. The cliffs which form the face of Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina are 1.1 billion years old. During Ordovician time — 505-438 million years before present (mybp) — Turtle Island may have collided with Baltica, the protocontinent which contained Western Europe (though perhaps they approached each other without making contact). The result was the Taconic episode of mountain building which created the Taconic and Green Mountains.

During mid-Silurian (438-408 mybp) to mid-Devonian (408-360 mybp) times, Turtle Island collided with Baltica to form the Old Red Sandstone continent. This violent collision caused the uplift of the northern Appalachians from New England to Canada. The White Mountains were born and the ancient Adirondacks were reborn.

In late Carboniferous times (320-286 mybp) Old Red Sandstone collided with Gondwanaland (supercontinent containing Africa, Australia, Antarctica, India and South America) to form Pangaea. The southern Appalachians were created then, and for a time the dinosaurs of Pangaea could have traveled the AT from Poland to Alabama via Ireland and New York. About 200 mybp, Turtle Island began to rift apart from Eurafrica east of the "suture" along which the older continents had been joined. Coastal Maine, eastern Massachusetts and Connecticut are probably relics of Eurafrica. As the continents split, the Atlantic Ocean's birth was witnessed by the already venerable Appalachians.

By the end of Cretaceous time (65 mybp) Turtle Island had assumed approximately its present shape and size. Its forests, now essentially modern, contained beeches, maples, oaks, walnuts, tulip trees, sweetgum, breadfruit and ebony. Sequoias were widely distributed over the northern hemisphere. Laurels, ivy, hazelnut, holly, grasses, cereals, seed and fruit-bearing shrubs, annuals and common vegetables occurred. The rise of angiosperms enabled birds and mammals to expand dramatically.

During the Tertiary period (65-2 mybp), every feature of the modern landscape was shaped. By Miocene time (24-5 mybp), temperate forests were widespread in the uplands and in the northern latitudes in general. The mixed mesophytic forest, which grows on the unglaciated Appalachian Plateaus, is the most complex and oldest association of the deciduous forest, and from it or its progenitor — the mixed Tertiary forest — all other climaxes of the deciduous forest have arisen.

Two million years ago, the Pleistocene glaciation began. At various times glaciers covered the northern Appalachian region as far south as northern New Jersey and northeastern Pennsylvania. Northern flora and fauna were driven southward and, after the recession of the glaciers, many endemic species remained marooned in high mountain areas. To and fro migration took place with each advance of ice. But fossil evidence indicates that nowhere far beyond the glacial boundary were climatic conditions sufficiently severe to displace native vegetation, thus in unglaciated areas there is a continuance of the late Tertiary forest.

Reindeer and Wooly Mammoths were at home in New England during the ice ages. The Musk Ox ranged as far south as Arkansas. As the last ice age waned, elephants were still more common in the eastern reaches of Turtle Island than they are now in East Africa. Mastadons browsed in great herds in eastern forests. Buffaloes and pigs dwelt there. True bears arrived. Wolves, foxes, Carcajou (a northern Native name for the cat variously called painter, panther, puma, catamount, cougar, or mountain lion), Lynxes, Raccoons, Badgers, otters, skunks, weasels, and Giant Ground Sloths prowled the East. The rhino evolved on Turtle Island.

As the ice cleared the St. Lawrence Valley after the last ice age 12,000 years ago, a shallow sea covered parts of New England and down the St. Lawrence Valley into the Champlain Valley and the Hudson River Valley, so that, for a time, New England and the Maritimes were an island. At the border between Quebec and Vermont, whale bones have been found 500 feet above sea level due to the rising of land after the ice receded.

With the retreat of the last ice age, the exposed land surface was covered by ground rock and rock flour. Plant species which could exist in raw soil began to migrate onto it. The advent of nitrogen-fixing species, such as alders, paved the way for spruce. Deciduous species followed later when soil had developed and the deeply frozen ground had warmed.

Today's Hemlock-White Pine-Northern Hardwoods Forest in the Northeast represents a post-glacial expansion of the forest which covered the unglaciated Allegheny Plateau and Allegheny Mountains of Pennsylvania throughout the Pleistocene. It moved rapidly into New York and New England.

Modern paleoecological and palynological studies have discovered that the period since the retreat of the last glaciers has been a time of continuous climatic fluctuations, with forest communities continually resorting themselves. Different species recolonized at different rates, and those now found in sympatry have generally been apart over their evolutionary histories longer than they have been together. This means that forests are in a perpetual state of dynamic equilibrium; that even without the intrusion of humans, the forest of tomorrow, while similar to today's in terms of species composition, will be different in terms of species association. Thus, when designing wild preserves, we must not think that we are preserving a certain forest-type in perpetuity, but that we are safeguarding the evolutionary integrity of that ecosystem. Everything changes.

PEOPLE AND THE LAND: The First People lived on Eastern Turtle Island for millennia in harmony with the living land. They hunted and fished, gathered roots, nuts, and berries, used fire for cooking and for clearing fields and forests. They were not scientists. They did not know the technical explanations for ecological phenomena. But they knew intimately the natural world and the spirit world. They respected the needs and powers of the spirits which governed the world. When they killed prey, they apologized to the animal spirit. They thanked the individual animal who had given its life that they might live. They used everything they killed. Waste was an act of disrespect and the First Peoples knew that such sacrilege would not go unpunished, that the game would disappear and the people would starve.

Europe had been domesticated and overpopulated for millennia. The pale invader of Turtle Island saw in the natural paradise a fantastic opportunity for plunder — gold, skins, timber. He was insensate to the living organism of Turtle Island and the living beings dwelling thereon.

Today, forest and field associations, watersheds and mountains are in a state of shock. Bereft of their native flora and fauna, they survive in a mutilated condition, host now to non-native species like the Hessian fly which preys on wheat, the blackfly, the grey rat, and the cockroach.

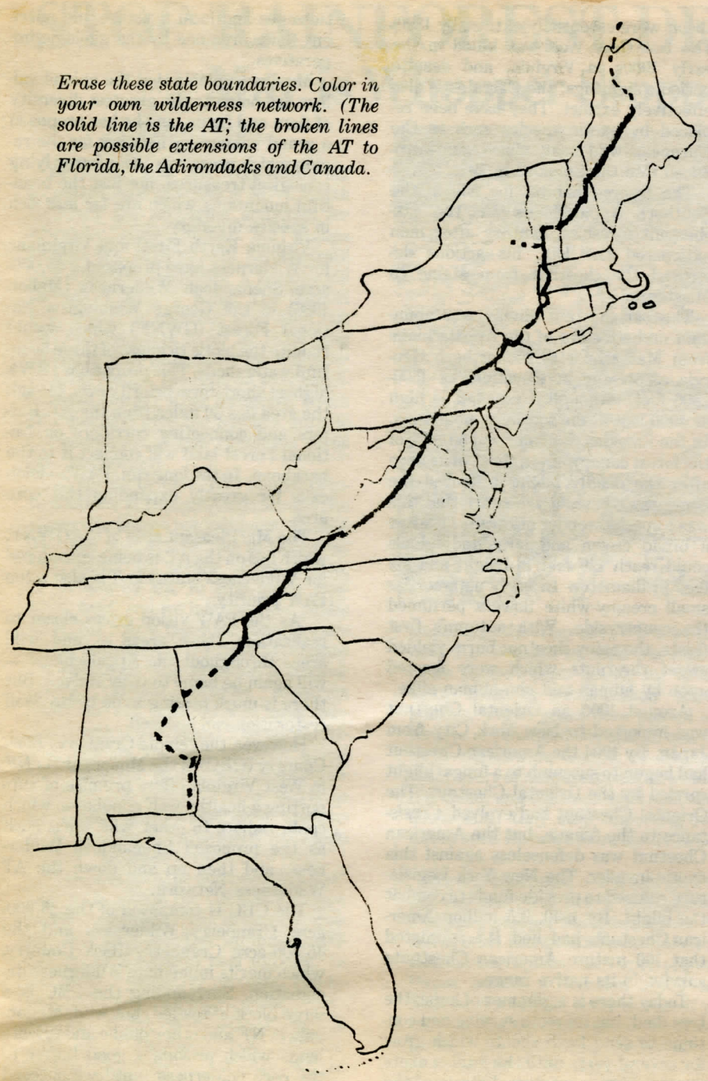
Roderick Nash notes that the Italians do not have a word for "wilderness," presumably because Italy has been subjugated by man for millennia. Luther Standing Bear, a Lakota, noted that his people also did not have a word for wilderness: "We did not think of the great open plains, the beautiful rolling hills, and winding streams with tangled growth, as wild. Only to the white man was nature a 'wilderness' and only to him was the land 'infested' with 'wild' animals and 'savage' people. To us it was tame. Earth was bountiful and we were surrounded with the blessings of the Great Mystery."

Until humans again learn how to live respectfully as a part of "tame" nature, we shall, regretfully, require the concept of "wilderness."

WHY WILDERNESS?: "Why wilderness?" Dave Foreman asks. "Because it's right. Because it's the real world, the repository of three and a half billion years of organic evolution; because it's our home."

Darwin's theory of evolution teaches Euroamericans what primal peoples have always known — that humans are related to the plant and animal people. All species — including *Homo sapiens* — evolved in the wild. Without wildlands, evolution and life cannot proceed.

According to the Wilderness Act, Wilderness is an area "where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man." This means large roadless areas. But wilderness is much more



Erase these state boundaries. Color in your own wilderness network. (The solid line is the AT; the broken lines are possible extensions of the AT to Florida, the Adirondacks and Canada.

than this. A wilderness must be large enough, thought Aldo Leopold, for a two-week pack trip without crossing one's own tracks. Doug Peacock, who has probably spent more time in the field with Grizzlies than anyone, says a wilderness contains something bigger and meaner than you — something that can kill you.

The essence of wilderness is mystery and wonder. The mysterious presence of the silent Carcajou, more felt than seen. The unfathomable symbioses and food webs. The unknown soil microbes. The miracles of photosynthesis, dendritic waterways, evolutionary change. The track of a wolf. In the words of one Lakota: "Everything as it moves, now and then, here and there, makes stops. The bird as it flies stops in one place to make its nest, and in another to rest in its flight. A man when he goes forth stops when he wills. So the God has stopped. The sun, which is so bright and beautiful, is one place where he has stopped. The trees, the animals, are where he has stopped, and the Indian thinks of these places and sends his prayers to reach the place where the God has stopped."

DOES WILDERNESS REQUIRE CIVILIZATION?: No.

DOES CIVILIZATION REQUIRE WILDERNESS?: All living beings, whether dwelling in the wild or in the city require wilderness. Civilization cannot survive without the gifts of wildlands: photosynthesis, precipitation, fishing . . . . Insect-eating migratory birds which winter in the tropics symbolize the constant and often unknown communication between wilderness and non-wilderness. Their behavior and physiologies are affected by all points along their migratory route. They transmit chemical and genetic material so that tropical rainforests, temperate forests, boreal forests, tundra, plains, mountains and islands are in complex communication with one another.

Biologically, civilization cannot survive without wilderness. Spiritually, as our violent age daily reaffirms, humanity cannot long survive alienated from the natural world.

WILDERNESS IN THE EASTERN UNITED STATES: Maine, a state of almost 20 million acres, with probably the greatest de facto wilderness in the East, has less than 23,000 acres of federally designated Wilderness. Even the celebrated Baxter State Park, home of Mt. Katahdin, is only 200,000 acres. Most of the wilds of northern Maine are owned by private lumber corporations whose recent "managerial" practices have included the use of dioxins to defoliate hardwoods.

In eastern Turtle Island there are scores of designated Wilderness Areas. Sounds impressive; but consider Virginia. It has 13 Wilderness Areas with a total acreage of approximately 150,000 acres, or less than 1% of the entire state. Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey have 30,000 acres of federally designated Wilderness among them.

Not only is there a grossly inadequate amount of Wilderness, but there is also a profound flaw in our approach to designation, preservation, and management of Wilderness. Currently, the few existing Wilderness Areas are tiny islands in a sea of development, and most have been chosen for their scenic beauty and low economic potential rather than for their ecological value.

Ideally, Wilderness, in forested areas, is composed of virgin or old growth forest. Unfortunately, this is not available in the Appalachian region. By 1920, 96% of the virgin timber of the Northeast had been removed, leaving a few minuscule tracts in northwestern Connecticut and in the most remote reaches of the northern woods.

Our task in the East, then, is not preservation of old growth, but restoration of damaged lands to something like presettlement condition: wilderness recovery (see the Wilderness Recovery Proposal for the Appalachians in the next issue of *EF!*). While our knowledge of the presettlement forests of the Appalachian region can only be fragmentary and inferential, we can use what we do know about the natural processes of old growth forests in Turtle Island to help devise a strategy which will maximize the opportunities of Mother Earth to recover.

Old growth forests are usually composed of uneven age and size stands of dominant and subdominant tree species which create a layered appearance with old trees towering over younger trees. Snags, broken tree tops, and fallen logs litter the forest floor. The larger habitat space created by bigger trees is critical to many endangered species of birds and arboreal mammals. Larger trees contain larger cavities for denning and nesting.

Large logs which litter the old growth forest floor are as important to the ecosystem as living trees. They take centuries to rot and recycle back into living matter, serving all the time as home to a universe of insects, fungi, and microorganisms. They also provide long-term nutrient stability to the ecosystem as travel lanes through thick second growth, as dens, as sources of water in dry seasons, as stabilizers of stream banks, and by helping to dissipate the erosive energy of flowing water.

Old growth forests play important roles in climatic regulation, watershed protection, genetic diversity, and the efficient interchange of gases. We shall never know the full extent and nature of unknown plant-animal, plant-plant and plant-soil associations which are essential to the regulation of healthy forest systems. George Wuerthner wonders if "the susceptibility of New England [and Adirondack] forests to acid rain may be increased by the loss of some important mycorrhizal fungi associated with their rootlets." (Yule 86) Until we view mature forest systems as organisms which must be understood in their wholeness, we shall continue down the path to ecological impoverishment.

This becomes critical when we consider the role of natural disturbance in shaping forests. Natural disturbances — including fire, windthrow, floods, landslides, lightning, ice storms, drought, and insect and fungal infestations — are responsible for maintaining the natural patchiness of vegetation of large wild areas. This continual shifting, destruction, and renewal assures that a rich diversity of several stages and community types is maintained in the region. Degeneration in one area is counterbalanced by regeneration in other areas.

The patchy mosaic created by natural disturbances is interconnected and contiguous, but the artificial checkerboard pattern of disturbance associated with logging, roading, and small nature preserves creates isolated, fragmented habitats. As a result, a natural disturbance in an unnaturally created fragment can prove to be fatal to the old growth forest, as in the case of the great hurricane of September 21, 1938, which almost completely destroyed the remnants of old growth on Pisgah Mountain in western Massachusetts.

Other consequences of fragmentation are: reduction in number of species; the loss of flexibility for migratory, nomadic, and some territorial species; and the introduction of undesired weedy plant and animal species which colonize the edges created by roads, clearcuts, and other products of artificial management (usually designed to increase favored game species). The weeds drive away endangered, sensitive, interior dwelling species; and while a fragment may contain more species (thanks to the influx of common weedy species), the number of species in the entire biogeographical region is diminished. Thus, the critical issue is not which type of reserve contains the most species, but which one contains the most species which would be threatened with extinction without protection.

The preservation of large areas buffers natural disturbances. Preservation of small island fragments, under the mistaken notion that the status quo of today will endure into the future, is a path to ecological impoverishment.

WILDERNESS PROPOSALS: The current approach to wilderness preservation is failing miserably to preserve healthy ecosystems. The proof is simple: Where are the Natives? Where are the Gray Wolves, Carcajou, Lynx, Wolverines, Bison, Elk, Pine Martens, Bald Eagles, dense flocks of birds, salmon, old growth White Pines, healthy American Chestnut Trees . . . ? Extirpated.

The preservation of fragmentary ghost forests will *never* be able to support healthy populations of these and many more species of flora and fauna which inhabited Turtle Island prior to 1500. Extirpation is the inevitable consequence of "politics as usual."

We must be ecologically realistic! We must consider the natural history and the ecological needs of the land, rather than continuing to ask, "What is politically realistic?" In drawing the boundaries of a wilderness preserve we must include whole ecosystems, not settle for compromises we can sneak through Congress. Then, we must insure that Wilderness preserves are managed with ecological, not economic, wisdom and ethics.

Our basic strategy is to identify large, core wilderness areas to be protected as Wilderness. Surrounding these cores will be buffer zones. The inner buffer zones will be managed as mature forests, thus increasing the effective size of the Wilderness core. They will mitigate the impact of civilization on the core areas and will mitigate the depredations of wildlife species on humans and their possessions. Appropriate, benign human activities like canoeing will be permitted.

Outer buffer zones would border on human settlements. Primitive hunting and long-rotation forestry might be permitted in the inner portions of these outer zones. The outer sections, which actually border on developed areas, might permit more intensive forestry, including tree farming, recreation, and possibly low density housing.

These buffered Wilderness cores would be linked by wild corridors to other nearby cores. The corridors must be wide enough to permit the flow of species, individuals, genes, energy and habitat patches. They can also be managed to bottleneck undesirable elements like weedy species.

Riparian strips, coastal strips, ridge systems, animal trails, fencerows, and combinations of these would be suitable corridors. Riparian strips are preferred, not only as corridors but as fish habitat. As home to amphibians and aquatic birds and mammals, they are the most productive of all habitat sites. They receive water, nutrients, and energy from upstream. Furthermore, in mountains, riparian strips connect higher elevations (where most Wildernesses are) with the more diverse habitats of lower elevations.

Connecting several Wilderness cores creates the large Wilderness necessary for recovery of extirpated large mammals, and enables reintroduced animals to interbreed, thus avoiding the deleterious effects of inbreeding. (Essential readings are: Larry D Harris, *The Fragmented Forest*, U of Chicago Press, 1984; Reed Noss, "Recipe for Wilderness Recovery," *EF!* Mabon 1986; and Reed Noss, "Wilderness Recovery and Restoration: An Example for Florida," Mabon 85.)

Sounds dangerously radical, cry the politicians and corporations. Bushwah! The preservation of the surviving fragments of Earth's biological heritage is a conservative concept. The self-styled conservatives who wreak havoc on the land for profit are the dangerous radicals.

APPALACHIAN WILDERNESS: TROPICS TO TUNDRA: In 1921, Benton MacKaye, a forester and future New Dealer, published a proposal in an architectural journal for a path linking a series of camps for city dwellers to use for nature recreation. The vision grew and, by 1937, the Appalachian Wilderness Trail connected Mt. Katahdin with Springer Mountain. The AT is a national treasure, yet it is far from secure de-

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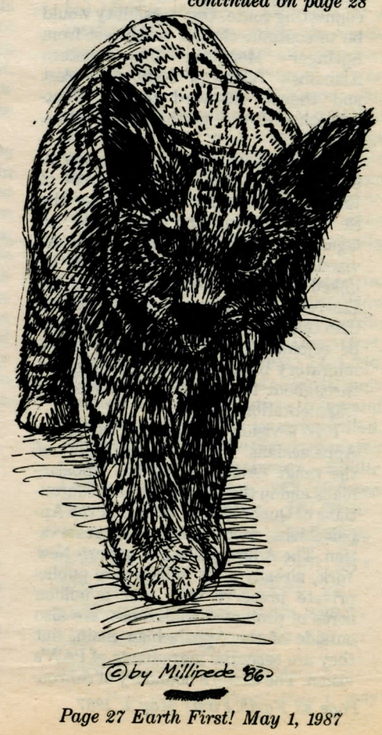


PAW (cont)

spite federal protection.

In the 1970s almost half of the land crossed by the trail was still private. In 1978 President Carter authorized $90 million to buy an AT corridor, which averages 1000 feet in width, to buffer the trail from development and conflicts with private owners. Now all but 225 miles of this 2100-mile trail are protected. In an unusual move, the Interior Department in 1984 turned over management of part of the public land to a private organization, the Appalachian Trail Conference headquartered in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia.

But all is far from well on the AT. The remaining 225 miles on private land must be protected. In the Cumberland Valley in Pennsylvania, near Carlisle, the AT follows busy highways and country roads for 14 miles. Wilderness? Ironically, in Maine, where the wildest sections of the Trail are, the AT traverses private (read "paper company") lands all the way to its terminus in Baxter State Park. Most of the paper companies were willing to give concessions of 1000-foot corridors and tops of mountains to the AT and the Park Service, but Great Northern, the largest landowner, insisted on dealing directly with the state government — a government they have long dominated. (See *EF!*, Yule 85)

Another insidious threat to the Maine AT comes from the Saddleback Mountain ski area developers who are negotiating to move the AT off the top of a mountain and onto the backside so that Saddleback can develop the top with ski lifts and condos. This plan is being fought, but the developers' powerful allies seem to be getting their way. Boycott Saddleback!

Highest priority for PAW is to secure the wilderness integrity of the AT. Efforts must be launched to widen the 1000-foot corridor wherever the trail does not pass through larger Wilderness and mature forest tracts. This is especially critical from Pennsylvania to Massachusetts where nearly all land is privately owned and where there are no large National Forests. The trail corridor must be sufficiently wide to minimize human-wildlife conflicts and habitat degradation. While we do not advocate developing new hiking trails in Wilderness cores, existing trail systems like the AT network should be retained for non-intrusive recreation.

A high priority is to extend the AT "backbone" from northern Georgia into the superb Florida Wilderness network first proposed in *EF!*, Mabon 1985. EF!ers from Georgia, Alabama, and Florida are urged to try to develop a connecting route. One possibility would be to continue the AT southwest from Springer Mountain into eastern Alabama's Talladega National Forest and thence eastward to the Chattahoochee River south of Columbus, Georgia.

A similar priority exists at the northern end of the AT. A route north of Katahdin, hopefully incorporating the St. John's River and the fabled Allagash, to the Gaspe region must be devised. Ultimately, the AT should be linked with the area north of the St. Lawrence and into the eastern Canadian tundra. Then the tropics will truly be rejoined with the tundra, even as migratory birds have kept them joined throughout the centuries of ecological fragmentation.

PAW's vision is not restricted to the Appalachians. Florida is not a part of the range (Alabama is). The Appalachians end in the Gaspe, but the Laurentians of Quebec, older even that the Appalachians, merit wilderness preservation. The Adirondacks in northern New York, already a six million-acre public-private preserve with over a million acres of protected wilderness, are also outside of the Appalachian chain, but they are essential ingredients of PAW's vision. The eastern boundary of Adirondack Park is the western boundary of Lake Champlain, less than 20 miles from the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont. PAW is designing corridors to link these national treasures. For preserves this large, more than one corridor is desirable to enhance migration, gene flow and linkage of diverse ecosystems. The example of the Adirondacks should inspire EF!ers to include wilderness preserves which merit inclusion even though they are not of the Appalachians. The ultimate goal is to link the Appalachian Region Wilderness with other networks throughout Turtle Island. Join the Atlantic with the Pacific! Maine with Mexico! Florida with Alaska!

Now that we have outlined the necessary (but insufficient) step of protecting the AT "backbone," it is time to flesh out, in a general way, the proposal for Appalachian Wilderness.

The Florida wilderness network proposed in Mabon 1985 is designed specifically (but by no means exclusively) to assure the recovery of Carcajou's southern cousin, the Florida Panther, which is perhaps the most endangered subspecies of mammal on Earth. We will not review this visionary proposal, except to note that the biggest threats to the Florida Panther are roads and ORVs. *Felis concolor* selects habitat with low road density, away from timber sales, and away from human settlement, and they require large tracts of land. Road closings in Panther habitat are essential.

The Southern Appalachians, especially North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky, and West Virginia, are home to the most richly varied deciduous forest in North America. Due to the extraordinary range of plant habitats and climates, 2500 tree, shrub, moss, and lichen species occur there, 1500 of which are flowering. There are over 200 endemic species, including 40 wildflower species.

There are more than 25 wilderness preserves in these states, but most are of less than 10,000 acres. Almost the entire length of the AT from Springer Mountain to the northern tip of the Shenandoah National Park traverses National Park, National Forest, or designated Wilderness. There is enormous potential for Big Wilderness in these Southern Appalachians.

That is the good news; the rest is more familiar. Roads parallel or bisect much of the AT. National Forests and parks are not managed as Wilderness, and most designated Wilderness is confined to mountains with spectacular views. The lower reaches, drainages, swamps, valleys, and less scenic areas — the areas with the greatest biological diversity — are generally unprotected.

A critical question is: "How healthy are these ecosystems?" Ask Yona, the Black Bear of the Smokies. Confined to 5-10% of its original range in the region of Katuah (the Cherokee name for the Southern Appalachians), Yona is disappearing. A 1981-82 study revealed that over 75% of breeding females and over 60% of the total population in the Pisgah Bear Sanctuary were killed! In the Harmon Den Bear Sanctuary, which borders the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, over 80% of the bears studied were killed!

Dwindling range, bad management, and periodic food shortages (an inevitable consequence of fragmentation) contribute to Yona's decline; but poaching, accounting for 50% of the kills, is the most serious threat. Bear activists in the region say that poachers will probably drive Yona to extinction unless something is done soon.

According to *Katuah* (fall 1985), the bioregional journal of the Southern Appalachians, Yona reflects "a medicine tradition long valued by our earth-based cultures. The Cherokee believe black bear is a descendent of the human tribe and he left the villages to seek his own way in the forests." Omniverous bears are at the top of a life-chain that requires vast areas of old growth, uneven aged hardwood forest, rich in species diversity — wilderness. As an indicator species, they symbolize the health of the forest community, from trees to mushrooms to soil microorganisms. If the bear population is healthy, then the forest community must be thriving.

One reason Yona is the indicator/totem of the Southern Appalachians is that of all the native large mammals, Yona alone remains. Elk and Eastern Bison were essentially extinct by 1800. The last Gray Wolf was killed in the early 1900s in Virginia, and despite periodic sightings, the Carcajou is also effectively extinct. They have been replaced by exotic species such as the European wild boar, which was introduced into the Smokies in 1912.

The favored habitat for Elk in the Southern Appalachians was the oak-chestnut forest. A century after man extirpated the Elk, his actions destroyed the chestnut from Maine to Mississippi.

The oak-chestnut climax was abundant on both sides of the Appalachians from Massachusetts to northern Georgia, especially at elevations of 1500-2000 feet, although it reached as high as 4900 feet in the southern mountains. In the Smokies, it comprised 50-80% of the forest canopy. Even those of us born after the deadly blight destroyed the American Chestnut are aware that this was a special wonder of Nature. It grew a broad crown and large individuals could reach 120 feet in height and six feet in diameter. In early summer its small creamy-white flowers perfumed the countryside. With autumn's first frosts, the spiny chestnut burrs yielded sweet chestnuts which were feasted upon by human and non-human alike.

Around 1900 an Oriental Chestnut was imported to New York City from Japan. By 1904 the American Chestnut had begun to succumb to a fungal blight carried by the Oriental Chestnut. The Oriental Chestnut had evolved a resistance to the fungus, but the American Chestnut was defenseless against this exotic invader. The New York Legislature refused to provide funds to combat the blight. By 1940, 3.5 million American Chestnuts had died. It is estimated that 100 mature American Chestnuts survive in its native range.

Today there is a glimmer of hope; the tree died, but its roots survive and continue to send forth shoots which grow for several years until the fatal cankers appear. Now, a weakened strain of the fungus has been discovered which attacks the tree but does not overwhelm its natural defenses. It appears to be spreading and slowly displacing the lethal blight fungus. Perhaps scientists, inspired by the grandeur of Mother Earth, can reverse one of the great ecological catastrophes of our age.

Nearly one-fourth of the AT lies in Virginia. As previously noted, Virginia has 13 Wilderness fragments totaling 150,000 acres. This represents a promising beginning, but there's much yet to do in the Virginia-West Virginia region. EF!'s indefatigable Virginia visionary, R.F. Mueller, writes lovingly of his home in the Valley and Ridge (Litha 1986):

"Nowhere else is there a closer connection, nowhere outside the Valley and Ridge, a more subtle interweaving of vegetation and mineral chemical substrate, of bedrock-derived soil and evolved tree species . . .

"On windswept and sunbaked ridges stunted Chestnut Oak, Bearoak and Yellow Pines prevail with their understory of laurel 'hells.' But in the valley alluvial plains and limestone hills there is the lushness of Black Walnut, Butternut, and Coral Berry; while between these extremes, from the highest mountain slopes through the coves and descending stream courses is a gradual and orderly transition between species native to boreal, northern hardwood forest and southern forests — all adjusted to climatic zones and local moisture and nutrient flows ordained by the geologic imperatives."

Mueller explains that the upland valleys are home to the greatest diversity of flora and fauna, and he has proposed a grand wilderness network for the region which preserves these lower lying ecological treasures, not just the beautiful mountains which are far less rich in species diversity.

Virginia Earth First! and Virginians for Wilderness have proposed a 65,000-acre Shenandoah Wilderness (Mabon 1986) in the George Washington National Forest (GWNF) which would reunite the biotic richness of three beautiful watersheds. This proposal is PAW's highest short-term priority even though the area lies 30 miles from the AT. Buffers and connecting corridors on National Forest land will connect it to the backbone. In the long run, PAW's vision calls for greatly expanding this core area.

The Mt. Pleasant area of the GWNF, which lies on the AT, is being considered for Wilderness status and is also a top PAW priority.

As the PAW vision grows closer to realization, these areas — and wild areas throughout the Appalachians — will again be home to Gray Wolves. But there is much healing to do before wolf restoration can succeed.

However, the remote Cranberry Back Country (CBC) of the Monongahela NF in West Virginia offers promise of supporting a healthy wolf population which could radiate to other wild areas such as the proposed Shenandoah Wilderness, and then up and down the AT Wilderness Network.

The CBC is composed of the 35,000-acre Cranberry Wilderness and the 45,000-acre Cranberry Back Country, which merits immediate Wilderness designation. Surrounding the CBC is a large block of roaded, but wild, Monongahela NF and other public and private lands which provide a good buffer to the core wilderness (until we succeed in incorporating these lands in our massive Wilderness network).

The CBC is larger and more biologically productive than Isle Royale National Park, which usually supports several Gray Wolf packs. Its soil is more fertile than that of the Ridge and Valley and it enjoys high rainfall, resulting in lush vegetation that will support White-tail Deer populations (the primary prey of wolves in this region) as dense as 50 deer per square mile. R.F. Mueller notes that this is a higher concentration of meat on the hoof than in most African game parks! The CBC's forests are very diverse, ranging from complex mixed mesophytes of the lowlands to spruce forests of the highlands, and its rugged terrain provides many denning sites.

Before reintroduction can proceed, a number of issues must be resolved. First, of course, is winning Wilderness designation for the CBC. Second, appropriate steps, including both education and strict enforcement practices, to stop poaching must be implemented. Third, an educational campaign must be launched to teach the inhabitants of the five county area, especially the livestock owners, of the true nature of wolf predation. As long as there is an abundance of prey, there is little reason for wolves to prey on livestock. George Wuerthner (Mabon 1986) writes: "Predators form what is called a 'search image' for their prey. A wolf raised on Elk and deer will pass up a steer because it does not consider it food."

The issue of predation points out the importance of large Wilderness preserves, preserves of 400,000 or more acres. Many plant and animal species undergo periodic fluctuations in population and range. During periods of favorable weather, species tend to expand their ranges and populations. When conditions change adversely, range and population contract. Herbivores such as Moose and White-tail Deer feast on early successional plant species that colonize natural disturbance areas. After a number of years the plants mature and grow out of reach of the herbivores, or the browsing pressure causes a local decline in vegetation. Large Moose and deer populations can no longer be supported, and their populations decline or go locally extinct and move to a more hospitable locale. The decline of the herbivore population affords plant communities a chance to recover.

In light of this, the CBC ought to

have a Wilderness core at least five times as large as our current proposed expansion to 80,000 acres. This expanded core should be linked to the larger Appalachian Wilderness via wilderness corridors.

The greatest challenge to PAW's vision comes from the central region of the Appalachians — from Pennsylvania to Massachusetts. This is the most densely populated portion, with the least immediate wilderness potential, and, paradoxically, the area with the greatest wilderness needs. There are no National Forests in this region; and while the AT does pass through several state parks, forests, and wildlife preserves, most of the land is private and heavily roaded. Still, there is a remarkable amount of *potential* wilderness for an area so close to Philadelphia and New York. Some of the richest soils of Turtle Island are found in this region. (Polluted New Jersey is the "Garden State.")

In Pennsylvania, the AT passes through three areas with immediate wilderness potential: the Michaux State Forest in the south, the Stony Creek Watershed northeast of Harrisburg, and the Delaware Gap in northeastern Pennsylvania and northwestern New Jersey. Stony Creek is perhaps the largest roadless area in Pennsylvania. It is publicly owned and partially protected by wild river status as designated by the Pennsylvania Legislature. Much of the region bordering the Delaware River is public land — the Delaware Gap National Recreation Area is administered by the National Park Service, and Worthington and Stokes State Forests are managed by the state of New Jersey.

Between these three areas, the AT in Pennsylvania follows a narrow ridgetop corridor through agricultural and populated areas. Politically, there is little immediate potential for wilderness reclamation. Ecologically, it is promising and necessary. Before we can reclaim large chunks of the Poconos from the tourist and resort industry for big Wilderness linked to the Appalachian Wilderness Network, the AT backbone must be secured.

The pattern of small stretches of public land and large expanses of private land extends through New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. The small section of the AT passing through northwestern Connecticut and into southeastern Massachusetts illustrates both the surprising potential for wilderness recovery in this region and the concept of "stepping-stone corridors."

Although there are no large wild preserves in this area, there are many small preserves, both publicly and privately owned, ranging in size from 436 acres to 9492 acres, which cover almost 44,000 acres. The AT passes through three of these preserves and comes within a few miles of two others. One of these, Mohawk State Forest, contains the Cathedral Pines, a 42-acre stand of White Pines over 200 years old which is managed by the Nature Conservancy. The Mattatuck Trail, which runs from the AT near Mohawk Mountain southeast for 35 miles to Wolcott, Connecticut, passes directly through three other protected tracts. Northeast of Winsted, Connecticut, and extending to the Granville State Forest in Massachusetts are five more preserves which could be linked. Joining these with Granville SF, we can then link three more Massachusetts preserves and rejoin the AT in Massachusetts at Beartown SF. Numerous preserves in the AT region of Massachusetts allow us to continue with this "stepping-stone" process all the way to Green Mountain NF in southern Vermont. Several major and minor roads cut through this area, but creative design and the closure of a few roads could resolve this problem.

Private land trust organizations like the Nature Conservancy and the Audubon Society own some of these tracts. We need to develop a method for government agencies and private conservation groups to work together to link these "stepping stones." Some private land will have to be purchased, but other promising approaches include conservation easements purchased from private landowners, "willing seller-willing buyer" sales, retention of "life estates," and tax incentives. But, realisically, it must be noted that in this age of frenzied development, PAW's vision, indeed the survival of our species, requires a conscious rejection of capitalist behavior toward the land by individuals and the public.

In northern New England, there is the basis for big Wilderness. The Green Mountain NF in south and central Vermont is currently almost 300,000 acres. White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire (extending a little into Maine) is nearly 700,000 acres, and the northern half of Maine, although owned by the paper companies, is the wildest part of the AT. There are, of course, numerous problems in the region, including clearcutting and the recent dioxin-defoliation of hardwoods in Maine by the paper companies. The greatest threat in northern New England, as elsewhere, is acid rain. The sugar maples are dying. Lakes in New England and the Adirondacks are dead or dying.

Vermont EF! is in the process of designing a wilderness proposal for that state with particular attention to appropriate human reinhabitation of the land. The following section is excerpted from a preliminary draft. The final draft should appear in an upcoming issue of *EF!*

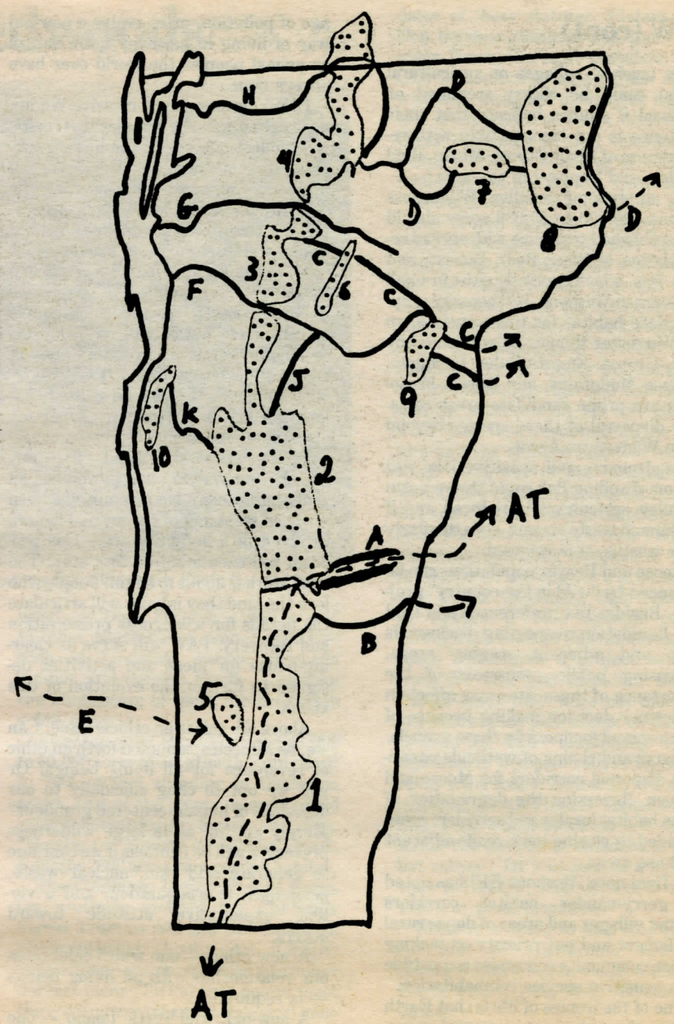
For four of the most wilderness-dependent species — Cougar, Lynx, Gray Wolf and Pine Martin — blocks of 400,000 acres or more in Wilderness are needed to maintain viable populations. For the Cougar, a 400,000-acre Wilderness specifically in Vermont is needed to assure thriving, interbreeding populations elsewhere in the Appalachians because this species has a US based distribution and prefers mountain realms. The Lynx, Gray Wolf, and Pine Martin, with their core ranges to the north, would benefit by corridors connecting a 400,000-acre Wilderness in Vermont to preserves in the Adirondacks, New Hampshire and Maine, which would in turn be connected with Canadian realms. Corridors south to the Berkshires and the Catskills could aid Cougar recovery. . . .

The Woodland Caribou [in what is now New England] was native only to the northeastern corner of Vermont, and we recommend wilderness reestablishment there which, when combined with adjacent areas in New Hampshire and Maine, would provide a habitat for that species and connect with the existing Caribou country in the Gaspe.

The other species on the list do not demand such large areas of wilderness, but all are of major concern in rehabilitating ecosystems in Vermont. In terms of habitat, these species can be divided into six groups: 1) those dependent on wild sections of river or lakeshore: eagles, Osprey, River Otter, Mink; 2) those using upland boggy areas: Moose, Beaver; 3) those requiring substantial undisturbed areas of forest backcountry: Black Bear, Bobcat, Gray Fox; 4) those requiring unsilted, unpolluted lake or river water: Lake Sturgeon, Shad, Copper Redhorse, Alewife, Blueback Herring, smelt; 5) those requiring special habitats: Peregrine Falcon, Indiana Bat, Green Alder, Alpine Mountain Ash, Spruce Grouse, Sunapee Trout; 6) common species of eastern forests included on the list because of their importance in wildlife management: deer, Coyote, skunks, Raccoon, Red Fox . . .

First, there is the task of reestablishing habitat. A 400,000-acre Wilderness centered on the central and southern Green Mountains will provide a core habitat in Vermont for many species, such as Cougar, Elk, Canada Lynx, Gray Wolf, and Pine Marten. This area was chosen because the combination of great relief (in the central Green Mountains) and high altitude bog and river country (southern Green Mountains) provides good habitat, and the existing public land base makes the proposal feasible. Two corridors would connect the Green Mountains with a larger White Mountain preserve to the east. These would be located along the Appalachian Trail through the Chateauguay area (the backwoods area between Bridgewater and Bethel) and across the White and Connecticut Rivers to Moose Mountain, Holt's Ledge, Smarts, Mt. Cube, Piermont Mountain, and Oliverian Notch, where the White Mountain Wilderness complex would begin.

This corridor would be transected or interrupted by several major transportation routes and the busy towns of Hanover and Norwich, so an alternative



VERMONT WILDERNESS
PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREAS
1. Southern Green Mountains
2. Central Green Mountains
3. Northern Green Mountains
4. Northern Green Mountains
5. Dorset Peak
6. Worcester Range
7. Lake Willoughby
8. Northeast Kingdom
9. Groton
10. Little Otter Creek

CORRIDORS
A. Chatauguay area corridor to White Mountains (includes AT)
B. Ottauquechee and Mascoma Rivers to Cardigan Wilderness
C. Whiteface Mountain to Groton Wilderness to Lower Ammonusuc River to Mt. Kinsman in White Mountains
D. Northern Green Mountains to Upper Connecticut River/Androscoggin River/Rangeley Lake
E. Dorset Peak to Adirondacks
F. Winooski River
G. Lamoille River
H. Missisquoi River
J. Mad River
K. Little Otter Creek

[caption for VT map:]
Preliminary proposal for Vermont Wilderness Network. Map will be updated with the publication of the revised Vermont Wilderness Proposal.

corridor to the south of the Ottauquechee and Mascoma Rivers connecting with a Cardigan Wilderness might better serve the more sensitive species, as it would be broken only by a few roads and it would cross the Connecticut away from settlements. The Cardigan Wilderness would have a habitat corridor at its northwest side extending to the Smarts/Cube Wilderness. Further north, a corridor including several small backcountry zones and a 37,000-acre Groton Wilderness, would connect the northern Green Mountains preserve (not part of the 400,000-acre preserve, but connected to it) to the White Mountains. Our map suggests a corridor extending from the Whiteface Mountain area to the Worcester Range, Woodbury Mountain and Lake, Groton, Blue Mountain, Gardner Mountain, the Lower Ammonusuc, and Cobble, Cooley, and Cole Hills to the White Mountains at Mt. Kinsman. Another corridor would connect the Green Mountains to the Upper Connecticut/Androscoggin-Rangeley Lakes Wilderness, and this could conceivably provide a dispersal zone or fringe territory for Woodland Caribou, Wolverines, Spruce Grouse, and Moose. This corridor would extend from the Paul Stream/Upper Moose River area to a small Lake Willoughby Wilderness, then through the towns of Sutton, Sheffield, Glover, and Albany and the Lowell Mountains to the Hazen's Notch area; or alternatively, extending through Morgan, Charleston, the Barton River Marsh, Newport town and Westfield to the Green Mountains. The latter corridor would require more disruption of human activities, but it probably provides better habitat for the mentioned species. The principal corridor connecting the Green Mountains with the Adirondacks would extend west from Dorset Peak through Rupert to Fort Ann and pass south of Lake George. These corridors would be belts of wilderness of varying width with adjacent buffer zones permitting a few low impact human economic uses. Only a few selected transportation corridors, designed to minimize collisions, would transect these wilderness corridors. The Green Mountains would be crossed by rails and highways at five locations (or less): routes 9, 103, 4, 2, and 15.

Plans to promote wide dispersal of the listed species should be devised. For the large raptors, River Otter, and Mink we suggest recovering habitat on selected rivers. At least the following rivers or river sections should become wild or nearly wild: the Lower Ammonusuc, ecologically important because it is a large free-flowing White Mountain river; the upper part of the West River between Londonderry and East Jamaica, which includes the only roadless section of a substantial stream in Vermont and which should be included in the Green Mountain preserve; and the Connecticut River above Woodsville, which would function as a habitat corridor to the upper Connecticut/Androscoggin-Rangeley Lakes Wilderness.

Lower elevation rivers, such as the lower Winooski, the Lamoille, and the Connecticut, are apparently less sensitive to human intrusion because as larger units they can absorb more impact and possibly because the species inhabiting low elevation areas exclusively tend to be less sensitive to human presence. Nevertheless, some sections of river should become wild, especially areas near major rapids. "Wild" or "nearly wild" status implies the removal of commercial farming operations and highways from the valley, or at least within one mile of the river. Selected

continued on page 30

PAW (cont)

areas (such as villages or agricultural lands) could be cherry stemmed or exclaved if studies indicate that their existence is not incompatible with repopulation of River Otters, Minks, Bald Eagles, and Ospreys in the area.

A number of smaller Wilderness Areas of 10,000 to 40,000 acres should be established to assure widespread repopulation of Black Bear, Bobcat, and Gray Fox, which currently exist in small numbers in Vermont. Hill country is appropriate habitat for these species, so the Worcester Range, Lake Willoughby area, Groton, Smarts/Cube, Cardigan, Ossipee Mountains, and Dorset Mountains are prime candidate areas to assure dispersal of these species beyond large Wilderness Areas.

Anadromous and sensitive lake and bottom-dwelling fish could thrive again if valley agriculture is reduced and if the human waste stream — particularly toxic wastes — is reduced.

Moose and Beaver populations can be enhanced by "wild in the country" projects. Besides tax preferences and land use liquidation respecting backwoods bogs and adjacent staging areas, increasing public awareness of the importance of these sites may affect on landowner decision making because of a widespread fondness for these animals. Streams and chains of wetlands constitute dispersal corridors for Moose and Beaver. Reversing the degradation of these habitat locales and corridors could be aided by closing town roads adjacent to these areas.

A final note: Vermont EF! has opted to gerrymander habitat corridors around villages and areas of dense rural settlement and put priority on making human community economies compatible with sensitive species reinhabitation.

One of the ironies of life is that Earth First!, the only environmental movement to give a truly democratic voice to the land and its plants and animals, is accused by profit-oriented wilderness abusers (ORV manufacturers and their ilk) of elitism. We are told that our desire to preserve huge roadless areas favors only the young and able-bodied, that the elderly, the very young and the handicapped are excluded. Ignoring the obvious truth that you don't have to visit a wild area to benefit from it, we shall conclude our discussion of the Appalachian Wilderness with a look at the pioneering concept of "wagon wilderness" which George Wuerthner proposed in *Earth First!*, Eostar 1986.

In Vermont and New Hampshire, many of the highest mountains have paved roads to the summit. Frequently, one encounters bumper stickers which wimpily boast "This car climbed Mt. Washington." We plan to close all summit roads in wilderness areas (and chuck the Mt. Washington Cog Railway). But, instead of eliminating all the roads completely, we advocate maintaining some of them as dirt roads so that those unable to scale the heights can enjoy the wilderness in a horse-drawn wagon. The disabled, very young, and elderly (but not the lazy, able-bodied) could then enjoy a wilderness experience. Selected other roads, especially roads which separate two Wilderness Areas, could be retained and managed similarly. Also, selected roads in gentle terrain, river valleys for instance, could be managed as trails so that those who are not up to the rugged terrain normally associated with wilderness could enjoy wilderness hikes. Most roads, however, should, and will, ultimately be closed.

ECOLOGY VS. POLITICS: This, then, is the vision for a protoplasmic Wilderness uniting the tropics with the tundra. We are under no illusion that PAW's vision will be easily attainable given the context of current social, economic, political, and ethical values. Obviously, PAW's vision is incompatible with current industrial practices.

But the long-term issue is not political feasibility. The laws of Nature operate independently of human politics. The long-range issue is ecological feasibility. Can we continue to destroy our environment and fellow beings? Currently this is politically feasible. But since Mother Earth is not very interested in our estranged whims, it is time we collectively acknowledge that it is not ecologically possible to continue our death trip. The industrial age will end soon, regardless of what politicos and corporate PR men say. Our options are: to die with the age of pollution, or to evolve a new-old way of living in harmony with Nature as primal peoples the world over have always done.

PAW's proposal for a massive Wilderness network in the Appalachian region is a modest offering to the healing process. In some respects, the ecological problems are more daunting than the political ones. As fossil fuels are depleted, the ability to maintain paved roads and fuel-guzzling machines, to blow ourselves up with Star Wars, and to support huge numbers of people will be forever lost, perhaps within a couple of centuries. But it will be 500 years or longer before old growth stands of White Pines tower 250-300 feet above New England. It will take at least that long for a blight-resistant American Chestnut to recover its original range.

PAW's proposal should, like any healthy ecosystem, be viewed as an evolving process. No attempt has been made to treat any of the myriad factors involved in a definitive way. This proposal represents only a first step. The Real Work is about to begin! People who love the land they inhabit will articulate the details for wilderness preservation and recovery. PAW will serve as clearing-house for ideas and activities designed to further the evolution of this vision.

Above all, this is an ethical issue. Can we, as a species, summon forth an ethic of reverence for all living beings? Or will we opt to cling suicidally to our delusions of human-centered grandeur? Merely setting aside large wilderness preserves will be fruitless if we continue to generate acid rain, nuclear waste, pesticides, overpopulation, and a violent exploitative attitude toward others.

A new ethic — one which celebrates our relationship with all living beings — is required.

A new-old, wild Turtle Island — one in which Wolf, Bear, Big Cat, and Eagle are at home again everywhere — is our only hope for survival.

The USA slowly lost its mandate
in the middle and later twentieth century
it never gave the mountains and rivers,
trees and animals,
a vote.
all the people turned away from it
myths die; even continents are impermanent
Turtle Island returned.
— Gary Snyder, "Tomorrow's Song"

Jamie Sayen is the author of a highly acclaimed biography of Einstein, and is a wilderness activist who will act as a PAW coordinator.

PRESERVE APPALACHIAN WILDERNESS

WHAT IS PAW AND WHAT CAN YOU DO?: PAW (Preserve Appalachian Wilderness) is a grassroots movement whose long-range goal is the realization of the vision of a contiguous wilderness network uniting Florida with Maine and beyond. To achieve this vision, we are working on many fronts to achieve short-term imperatives. Highest priorities are:

1) Securing the integrity of a significantly widened AT.
2) Designing connecting corridors to Florida, the Adirondacks, the Gaspe and beyond.
3) Achieving designation of the proposed 65,000-acre Shenandoah Wilderness, and Wilderness designation for the Mt. Pleasant area.
4) Gaining designation of an additional 45,000 acres of Wilderness in the Cranberry Back Country in West Virginia.
5) Working with local groups in every bioregion of the Appalachian region to identify and preserve core wilderness areas, buffer zones and corridors.
6) Working with local groups to design wilderness recovery plans for each bioregion.
7) Working with private and public groups to devise strategies for the preservation and/or acquisition of private lands.
8) Developing a comprehensive and flexible strategy for corridor design.
9) Soliciting ideas from you concerning other short- and long-term goals.
10) Bringing the RRR to the Appalachians

Please contribute to the vision of PAW. PAW needs local contacts to coordinate local wilderness proposals and recovery plans. We need biocentric artists, healers, tricksters, ecologists, biologists, hydrologists, geologists, lawyers and activists. To maintain even a skeletal office operation, PAW needs your contributions. Please send to: PAW, RR 1, PO Box 132-A, North Stratford, NH 03590.

Letters (cont)

EFECT — Earth First! Erosion Control Team. We will trespass onto eroded land, bring the media, possibly get arrested, but possibly not, because a logging company will have a hard time explaining to the media why they've arrested you for planting trees and grasses (which they shoulda done in the first place). We, on the other hand, will walk fearlessly on to the land to heal it, reclaiming it for Mother Earth, regardless of white man's laws. We'll let you know how it goes.
— Socratrees

SFB,
In your letters column somebody mentioned the Hemlock Society ("an educational organization, supports the option of active voluntary euthanasia — self-deliverance — for the advanced terminally ill adult, or the incurably physically ill person") but couldn't remember the address. It is: Hemlock Society, POB 66218, LA, CA 90066.
— Bill

Dear Dave, Nancy, John et al,
I recently spoke to a group of high school biology teachers as part of a seminar on hazardous materials management sponsored by the National Science Foundation (and corporate sponsors including Hewlett-Packard, Unocal, and Chevron). The teachers felt they were getting too much corporate and government representation and asked the director of the program to invite some "environmentalists" to offer a different perspective. The director invited speakers from Greenpeace and Earth First!.

My talk went well, and all the teachers took copies of *EF!*. I went beyond talking about the impact of hazardous materials. I encouraged them to teach students how to recognize a healthy ecosystem, to develop a concern for their personal impacts on the environment, to visit the wilderness often, and to engage in direct action.

I have spoken before several high school classes at one local school, and after my talk several bio teachers invited me to speak with their classes too. I hope other EF!ers will go to the schools in their areas and inspire more young people to join with Earth First! in the fight to protect biological diversity. Spread the word!
— Dave Barron

SFB,
I realize this is not a new idea but seems like one worth being reminded of. I just donated a subscription of *EF! Journal* to the local library. I checked first to make sure it would be displayed with the same prominence as *National Geographic* and *Field & Stream*. This means hundreds of people will hear about what is happening to our wilderness and perhaps start sending letters to politicians and forest supervisors, not to mention perhaps reaching people who wish to do more but don't know how to start.
— Sequoia, Redwood Valley, CA

Friends,
Jamie Sayen's article, continuing the comments on anarchy from earlier issues, raised interesting points. Sayen's speculations deserve response, and I would be pleased to see Abbey answer the challenge of just how he "expects the disappearance of the military-industrial state to occur."

For my part, I was disturbed to see Lao Tzu lumped together with other thinkers who, in fact, do not share the Taoist ethic. The *Tao Te Ching* makes it clear that Lao Tzu was profoundly aware and respectful of nature and our place in it. John Clark's brilliant collection of essays, *The Anarchist Moment* (Black Rose Books) contains a piece which specifically sets forth the relevance of Taoism to contemporary anarchist thought.

continued on page 31

End (cont)

tional purposes. This action would be a major step forward to environmental sanity, in town as well as in the woods (and incidentally, improve America's balance of payments with Japan).

What about policy for high-tech wildlife management? The wolf-moose-bear study concluded with the statement: "Unfortunately, the answers we have found, although they provide valuable clues and good basic information for other parts of Alaska, apply only to the Nelchina Basin and our study area, and for the years 1975 through 1981." In other words, the study was inconclusive for Alaska as a whole and will have to be repeated again and again in the Nelchina basin and all other places where the moose population declines. The scientific caution is admirable in principle, consistent with ecological theory, and promotes full employment of wildlife technicians. It also raises an economic question: Has the cost of management been translated into dollars-per-pound of moosemeat? Political and ethical questions arise too. The Alaska State Department of Fish and Game defers to wildlife advisory boards for policy based on such experiments, and these advisors encourage the management of animals for use by people, either to kill and eat, for "photo opportunities," or to protect people from wild creatures. In addition to these concerns, which will not disappear from Alaska in the foreseeable future, the beasts should be managed and studied with the welfare of the animals themselves a consideration. The ethical issues associated with animal science are almost never addressed in print by the biologists involved. Meanwhile, in response to pressure from animal rights organizations, the federal government and universities in the contiguous US have created institutions to oversee the ethical use of animals in research. University committees, consisting of scientists mainly but also of public representatives and representatives from the humanities, now appraise an experiment with the animal's welfare in mind. Does it suffer unalleviated pain or distress and if so, is the distress justified, given the significance of the experiment? Perhaps similar institutions are needed to evaluate wildlife studies.

To conclude: existing definitions of wilderness as a place where there is solitude, a low man-land ratio, biological integrity, and wildlife, do not work because disruptive modern technologies are not taken into account. Technologies that provide easy access have threatened Alaskan natural environments increasingly since the end of World War II. Between then and the 1960s, Alaska lost its frontier innocence and wilderness became only a word, not a place. Ironically, wilderness in America may have ended at the same time that society, by passage of the Wilderness Act of 1964, decided it was worth saving. There are still ways, however, to reverse or at least to ameliorate the damage.

Morgan Sherwood, a professor in the history department of UC Davis, originally published this article in Environmental Review *(fall 85). We have omitted the footnotes to save space. Readers wishing to see the full footnoted version may write to us for a copy.*

Is "Deep Ecology" Deep Enough?

by W.J. Lines

In its struggle for wilderness and the protection of species other than *Homo sapiens* the Earth First! movement pays too little attention to its philosophical roots. Like its radical American predecessors, Earth First! lives in the eternal present and is preoccupied with changing the world rather than understanding it. The movement shares this flaw with American society in general, which values activism above thought and pragmatism before planning.

But to attain their goals, political movements must be guided by a cogent and relatively accurate understanding of the world; otherwise errors of theory will lead to ill-conceived action. Unfortunately, much of EF!'s effort to understand the world is muddled with New Age cant, is the product of wishful thinking and is both anthropocentric (expressing a viewpoint centered on humans) and anthropomorphic (attributing human characteristics to the natural world).

Earth First!ers oppose "industrial totalitarianism" and tend to support the "deep ecology" sentiments of Norwegian philosopher Arne Naess — humans should participate in but not dominate the natural world. In contrast to the uncritical enthusiasm for growth which dominates contemporary political and economic thought, this a radical challenge. In light of the potentially catastrophic plunder of the earth, it stands as a refreshing call to action. However, the intellectual basis for deep ecology's conclusions is bogus.

Equally counterfeit is deep ecology's style. If the reader can decipher the impenetrable prose — "Solid ground on risen rules, euphemistic extremes, frosted platforms of performance from which poetry, unlike science, need, can go no further." (Michael Tobias) — certain premises, common to deep ecological thought become clear. The myth that primitive humankind existed in amity with nature underlies much of the argument of deep ecologists. Consequently they exalt tribal consciousness as possessed of superior wisdom. The hoary, sentimental myth of the noble savage is reborn, with the savage becoming the first true ecologist. Rousseau's fancy here appears in a new guise, wearing green.

Illusion, as an invention of the imagination, exerts a powerful attraction upon people tired of the given. For Tobias, "The last remaining tributes to original consciousness are embodied in those tribal groups whose life is synonymous, more or less, with an approach to original systems in so many fruitful ways to the essential activities of earth and sea in concert with atmospheres."

If he means what I think he does, he is wrong. Tobias beholds in primitive cultures only what he wants to see. Primitive peoples did not, through choice, live in harmony with nature. If they disturbed their environment little it was because of their small numbers and crude and limited technology. Constrained circumstances prescribed a semblance of oneness.

Tobias, along with others assembled under the deep ecology rubric, believes the rot set in with the advent of Judeo-Christian religions which set man against his environment. But archeological and anthropological evidence suggests that man was capable of wreaking havoc long before the Judeo-Christian divinity provided a rationale.

The New Zealand Maori, for example, before the arrival of Europeans and Christian missionaries, hunted to extinction several animal species. Also, many desert civilizations, which rose and fell long before Moses led the exodus from Egypt, perished after fouling their own nests.

While criticizing the Judeo-Christian tradition on the one hand, deep ecologists allow it to inform their thinking on the other. Their treatment of the history of man's estrangement from nature — once a perfect union now sundered — mirrors the biblical story of man's expulsion from the Garden of Eden. While the scenario, like illusion, exercises the imagination, the Garden of Eden story is not literally true and is misleading as a metaphor. The script represents a projection of desperate human dreams and hopes — if man once enjoyed peace with himself and the world, the possibility exists that he might again be delivered into grace.

Another of the Western world's deep prejudices, this one antedating the Bible, permeates deep ecology thought. Deep ecologists subscribe to the Platonic notion that what we see in the world is merely the superficial and imperfect representation of an underlying, eternal reality. The corollary — once we discover this ultimate reality we will know how to live — is advanced by those who believe that from nature we can derive ethical and moral lessons.

To believe in an ultimate reality, that ethical implications follow from new views of nature and the existence of "cosmic justice" (Murray Bookchin) is surely anthropocentric. The notion of "cosmic justice" closely parallels Pierre Teilhard de Chardin's grossly anthropocentric vision of "cosmic progress" — that the evolution of life makes sense only in terms of its striving toward man.

The charge of anthropomorphism occurs frequently in *Earth First! Journal*. Indeed, EF!'s *raison d'etre* may be described as the struggle against ecological arrogance. But *The Journal* and its contributors are also guilty of hubris — both when they endorse deep ecology sentiments which derive from anthropocentric positions and when they refer to the earth as mother, which is an anthropomorphic description.

Ascribing human archetypes to nature by designating the earth as maternal ancestor suggests design: that we humans are nature's favored progeny.

The term 'mother' is a human invention and evokes uniquely human characteristics; to propose that this forms the essence of our relationship with nature exalts our place within nature and unconsciously echoes Protagoras in claiming "man as the measure of all things." Or maybe those attached to the use of 'Mother Earth' wish to emphasize the dark side of the relationship: that humans are locked in an oedipal embrace with the natural world?

Deep ecologists pursue a quest as old as the intellect: to fix the role of our species in nature and the cosmos. But it is futile despite its distinguished antecedents. The ambiguity and inherent complexity of our place in the natural world ultimately defeats all systemizers. Humans are both inextricably of, and separate from, nature. Our own self-consciousness ensures the existence of this dilemma, which Stephen Jay Gould describes as the "essential and unresolvable tension between our unity with nature and our dangerous uniqueness."

W.J. Lines is an environmentalist and scholar living in California.

Letters (cont)

With respect to Sayen's observation that the word 'anarchy' "is baggage from the non-natural world," it can be argued that all language is baggage and not natural. However, unless we arrive at a time and place where we become so attuned to each other and our environment that the need for language is obviated, words and language remain our prime tools of communication.

Finally, there is no inherent contradiction between natural and anarchic "man" (sic), as Sayen concludes. Bakunin's 19th century observations on our evolution as social beings, as well as his thoughts on "natural laws," find their contemporary voice in Murray Bookchin's comprehensive ecological social theory.

As a last word, why do we persist, as Sayen did, in using "man" as the generic form for all people? Granted we think, wouldn't "sapiens" be an acceptable alternative?

— Concetta Tuttle, 820 E Adelaide, Tucson, 85719

ed. note: We prefer that our writers use inclusive language, excepting those cases where the writer speaks about, for instance, a destructive activity which has indeed been primarily perpetrated by man as opposed to woman. (More specifically, speaking of man's *exploitation of the environment is arguably an appropriate use of non-inclusive language.) Many of us agree with your point when you follow "man" with "(sic)." However, the substitution of the word 'sapiens' for 'man' at this point in humanity's ignominious recent history seems presumptuous.*

Editor,

Andrew Schmookler argues cogently that the necessity to maximize power drives human social evolution and that any country which tries to unilaterally forego power maximization and decentralize will be swallowed by more power-oriented societies. The good news for those of us who would prefer to live in a simpler, bioregionally based society (or at least think we would; Ed Abbey: write us a novel about what it would be like to live in an anarchy, please) is that a world of this sort may be inevitable, if we don't blow ourselves up first. Howard and Elisabeth Odum (*Energy Basis for Man and Nature*, McGraw-Hill, 1976) observe that wielding power, whether globally or domestically, requires energy. They argue that, barring the discovery of entirely new energy generating processes, energy will limit the expansion of human power systems in the very near future. One need only note the strain the arms race and foreign adventurism is placing on the economies of the US and USSR to realize that the process has already begun. The "steady-state economy" the Odums believe will develop in response to energy constraints is very much like the society the "anarchists" (Abbey, Manes et al) advocate. As Abbey argued in *Good News*, modern, energy-intensive civilization is not sustainable. The major question becomes whether we can convince our leaders (and those of the Soviet Union) of the inevitability of the decline: will we adjust gracefully to our situation or will we go down kicking and screaming? Will the transition be smooth and easy or sudden and traumatic? I recommend the Odums' book to everyone interested in the centralized vs. decentralized future debate.

— Terry Morse

Fidus Faecum pro Cerebrum:

SALUS! To Paul Watson, for his courage and brilliance in sailing between the Scylla of the plutocrats and the Charybdis of moderation, to avert the slayers of Amphitrite's children;

To Christoph Manes and Mike Roselle for their intelligent criticism, and for Manes' splendid Sea Shepherd Saga, long may it be sung!

And to FFpC for creating the forum which brought the message home to all: Dulce et decorum est, pro Gaia vici!!! TERRA PRIMA!

— Poseidon

Hello all,

In a recent discussion with my students, I found myself having to struggle to sell the idea that being active — or an activist — was essential to earthly health and happiness. It took time, but I believe I planted another couple of seeds for the Lorax (education truly is direct action). The result of this exchange was not only a few newly aware youngins, but a renewed understanding of where much of my fuel to fight comes from. I thought the perspective was worth sharing.

A beautiful day in the wilderness found my group discussing the fate of Earth and the species *Homo sapiens*. One fellow asked a series of questions which almost led us all to believe: "I guess it doesn't matter anyway." He first asked if I thought that *Homo sapiens* was destined to extinction. I said yes! He then asked if all that was happening on Earth, regardless of the appropriateness, was truly part of the evolution scheme. I again said yes: if it's occurring, then it is essentially part of evolution. He continued: did I think Earth as a whole would survive even the wildest of human-caused holocaust? I told him that indeed we humans could poison the beauty and health of Earth to the point where she would no longer sustain life as we know it, but that I felt — yes — Earth would bounce back in time. I flashed on Dave Foreman's snow-inspired speech in Idaho last summer, and used it as a potential scenario to depict Earth's resilience.

My inquisitive student then delivered his final blow. He debated that if indeed the present course of things was part of evolution, that if indeed humans would become extinct, and that if indeed Earth would still survive, then no real reason existed to be so concerned about the fate of things — fate is fate! It was solid reasoning, and most of the group acquired that "I guess it doesn't really matter" look on their faces.

I was tempted to use Dave's puzzle analogy (save as many pieces as possible) to try to change their faces, but feared it was focused a bit too much on something other than immediate gratification. And then I remembered the Lorax: that little creature who is brownish and mossy, and who speaks for the trees. Now it was my turn to speak for the trees (which the Onclers seem to be chopping as fast as they please).

I delivered a heart-felt sermon on right and wrong, moral and immoral, legal and illegal, and reminded those teenage ears that most Americans viewed spiritual growth as the triumph of right over wrong. I then presented reality after reality (toxic waste, old growth forest destruction, etc.) of how the power-seekers were being unjust in their self indulgence, and how the rest of us were either naive or ignorant of our having bought into this system (save a few enlightened folks). With every environmental battle I mentioned, I again realized how unethical and illegal the money-mongers can be in their efforts for bigger toys, larger profits and greater dominion over Earth. I made reference to the "Moral Maturity" article in the Lughnasadh 85 Journal, and ended with a recapitulation of Howie Wolke's recent editorial "Do It."

All in all, I rediscovered where my commitment and energy toward an Earth First! world comes from: a love for my mother, and a loathing for subhumans who promote her destruction. And what about you?

—In Positive Rage,

—Tom Skeele, Yosemite, CA

Dear SFB,

I enjoyed the last issue, but was not happy with the "Chicle Cripples" piece by Wayne Williams. His sentiments may be in the right place, but his facts are wrong. The Chicle Sapote (or Sapodilla) tree is *not* usually killed or sacrificed by chicleros (tappers) when they gather the sap. If you travel in the rainforests of Guatemala and Belize you will see thousands of healthy trees that bear the scars of tapping. The general rule is that if the trees are tapped less frequently than every four years, they recover (like tapping maple syrup — are we supposed to boycott that too?). Managed carefully, chicle can be produced on a sustained yield basis with no harm to the forest — in fact it is an optimal low-impact use that brings much needed cash to the poorest people in areas where other options are much less desirable — shooting Jaguars, looting ancient ruins, running drugs, smuggling arms.

The idea that the Guatemalan rainforest is "one of the harshest environ-

continued on page 32

'Third Wave' Environmentalism A Euphemism for Selling Out

by Bill Devall

The *Los Angeles Times* recently published an article describing the rise of "Third Wave" environmentalism. The goal of the Third Wave is to work for effective implementation of existing environmental laws. Third Wave groups, such as the Environmental Defense Fund, negotiate agreements with corporations which provide what one proponent called a "win-win" situation. Corporations maintain their profits and environmentalists gain some compliance with the law.

Third Wave proponents avoid boycotts or attacks on corporations. They seek reasonable compromises based on realistic assessment of the political and economic situation. Economics is the primary intellectual tool used by Third Wave environmentalists. They seek to show corporations that it is profitable to be in conformity with environmental laws.

Third Wave environmentalism is contrasted with First Wave environmentalism which lasted from 1890 to 1970. During this period, according to Third Wave proponents, small bands of amateur conservationists lobbied for new laws aimed at restraining some of the worst abuses of the environment by business and industry.

The Second Wave began with Earth-day, 1970. During the Second Wave, environmental groups grew enormously in membership and many new environmental laws were enacted. Environmentalism developed a mass constituency and corporations were frequently the target of attack for their pollution of the environment.

The election of Ronald Reagan as president in 1980 created a new political situation. Although membership in environmental groups continued to grow during the 1980s, few new environmental laws were enacted. Leading environmental groups (sometimes called the Gang of Ten) sent their executive directors to joint meetings to develop a consensus strategy. The consensus seemed to be that the industrial system is working fine but needs minor tuning. Major environmental leaders began preaching that environmentalists favor continued economic growth, high standards of living, and environmental quality. Their basic assumption seems to be that we should not rock the boat.

Environmental groups became more professionalized and bureaucratic. Economists rather than ecologists became the leading experts in environmental groups. Some environmental groups rely less and less on their membership for financial support. The Environmental Defense Fund, for example, received $250,000 from PG&E, the giant California utility corporation, for developing a computer model for energy conservation.

Third Wave environmentalists see themselves as rational men and portray Earth First! and other radical environmental groups as out of touch with political and economic reality.

In one sense, the purpose of the Earth First! movement has been achieved with Third Wave environmentalism. By taking extreme positions on environmental issues we wanted to make other environmental groups appear moderate. But some positions that other environmental groups are taking are so moderate as to be indistinguishable from corporate positions.

Some Third Wave proponents make fun of the "no compromise in defense of Mother Earth" slogan of Earth First!. But "no compromise" means we don't compromise our deep ecology principles. We don't compromise the integrity of Gaia, of Mother Earth.

I, for one, am very reasonable and quite willing to negotiate with major corporations on issues of concern. For example, I am willing to negotiate a time table for withdrawal of Maxxam from my home country, Humboldt County, California. I'm willing to give them one year to stop logging old growth redwood and develop a management plan for the remainder of their property which protects streams, prohibits clearcuts and aerial spraying of herbicides and provides for long term stability of the local economy. I'm a reasonable man.

My chief objections to Third Wave environmentalists are that they have rewritten environmental history, downgraded the spiritual-religious tendencies of the deep ecology movement, and defined environmentalism in elitist, managerial terms without regard for the drastic shift in culture which is necessary. Economics, for me, as with other supporters of deep ecology, is only a small part of ecology, and ecology is a non-manipulating science.

Deep ecology in the 1980s is inspired by the spiritual-religious-philosophical insights of Thoreau, Muir, Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson and others of the last century in America, as well as Native American environmental ideals, Taoism and ecofeminism. Deep ecology and Earth First! speak for the intrinsic worth of all creatures, not just humans.

While appearing reasonable, Third Wave environmentalists are the destroyers of environmentalism. They have accepted the status quo of technocratic domination, seek no dramatic changes in law, and are recreating the environmental movement into a caste of professionals who help solve the problems of capitalists rather than serve the vital needs of Grizzly Bears and other wild creatures who will never be an economic asset to big corporations.

Bill Devall is a professor at Humboldt State University in California and co-author of the book ***Deep Ecology.***

Population and AIDS

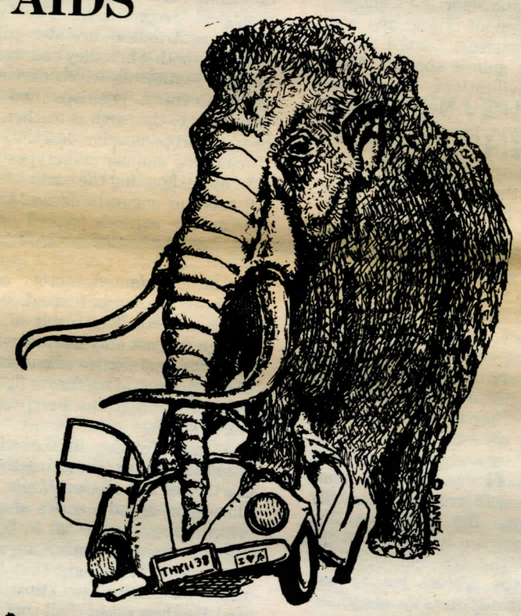
by Miss Ann Thropy

If radical environmentalists were to invent a disease to bring human population back to ecological sanity, it would probably be something like AIDS. So as hysteria sweeps over the governments of the world, let me offer an ecological perspective on the disease (with the understanding that the association between AIDS and homosexuality is purely accidental and irrelevant — in Africa it is a heterosexual disease, and is destined to be so everywhere).

I take it as axiomatic that the only real hope for the continuation of diverse ecosystems on this planet is an enormous decline in human population. Conservation, social justice, appropriate technology, etc., are great to discuss and even laudable, but they simply don't address the problem. Furthermore, the whole economy of industrial affluence (and poverty) must give way to a hunter-gatherer way of life, which is the only economy compatible with a healthy land.

Of course, such a decline is inevitable. Through nuclear war or mass starvation due to desertification or some other environmental cataclysm, human overpopulation *will* succumb to ecological limits. But in such cases, we would inherit a barren, ravaged world, devoid of otters and redwoods, Blue Whales and butterflies, tigers and orchids.

AIDS, however, has the following environmentally significant characteristics: 1) it only affects humans; 2) it has a long incubation period; 3) it is spread sexually. The first of these is the most important: AIDS has the potential to significantly reduce human population without harming other life forms. The next two characteristics make it relevant to the worldwide population problem. Diseases which are excessively virulent tend to be evolutionary failures: because they quickly kill off the hosts on which they depend, they usually lose out to less deadly forms. The Black Death is a good example. It effectively decimated Europe — so effectively that it used up the susceptible host population before it could spread far beyond its Eastern geographic limits. (The present variety of bubonic plague is thought to be a less virulent form of the disease.) AIDS, however, has a long incubation period which allows infection of others, and hence survival of the virus, before death. And because sexual activity is *the* most difficult human behavior to control (recent frenzied attempts by Western governments notwithstanding), the AIDS epidemic will probably spread worldwide, especially to cities where people are concentrated.



Barring a cure, the possible benefits of this to the environment are staggering. If, like the Black Death in Europe, AIDS affected one-third of the world's population, it would cause an immediate respite for endangered wildlife on every continent. More significantly, just as the Plague contributed to the demise of feudalism, AIDS has the potential to end industrialism, which is the main force behind the environmental crisis.

Industrial society is based on the accumulation of capital from a mass of workers. That capital represents power to organize people and material in such a way as to disrupt natural cycles — by building dams, producing toxic wastes, "developing" the Third World . . . . This system requires a critical number of producer/consumers. If the population goes beneath that number, industrialism cannot function. Capital dries up, governments lose authority, power fragments and devolves onto local communities which can't affect natural cycles on a large scale.

Exactly what that critical number is, I don't know, and it probably depends on many factors (deep ecologists should research this). Based on historical evidence, I guess that the population of the US would have to decline to 50 million to really undermine its industrial economy, and down to five million to make hunting/gathering/small farming feasible. This suggests that AIDS would have to kill 80% of the world's human population to end industrialism, though even a much smaller decline would fragment economic power.

Whether AIDS will effect that many people is doubtful. Long before that, governments and institutions will enforce draconian measures to stop the disease, as they have already proposed in Europe. However, the social disruptions involved in this may cause a breakdown in technology and its export, which could also decrease human population.

None of this is intended to disregard or discount the suffering of AIDS victims. But one way or another there will be victims of overpopulation — through war, famine, humiliating poverty. As radical environmentalists, we can see AIDS not as a problem, but a necessary solution (one you probably don't want to try for yourself). To paraphrase Voltaire: if the AIDS epidemic didn't exist, radical environmentalists would have to invent one.

Letters (cont)

ments on earth" is ludicrous. The ancient Maya civilization flourished there 1000 years ago using sophisticated agricultural techniques for soil conservation and watershed management, and I have lived with modern Indian farmers who find the rainforest a secure and productive home, bountiful and resilient when dealt with carefully. I have spent months camping in that environment, and I find the coniferous forests of the American northwest to be far harsher for travel and finding food and shelter.

Let's please distinguish between indigenous peoples with their benign uses of rainforests (including the oft-maligned practice of slash-and-burn agriculture), and those who want to raze the forest for industrial farming or logging. Yes, in recent times chicle has been over-exploited and trees have been killed by young chicleros from the city who don't live in the area and don't know how to manage the forest resources, the way old-time chicleros did. Is the answer a boycott that might drive down the price so they have to gather more to make the same money — making the destruction worse? Or is it regulation, licensing, and oversight? This does not even approach the problem that the gathering of chicle (like the gathering of other forest commodities such as Amazonian rubber, orchids, and curare) is low-paid work, in which the bulk of the profit goes to the middleman and marketer, while the producer gets a pittance. There are other avenues of action besides a boycott, like the end-run tactics used for direct marketing of tropical produce from producers to consumers, or unionization by workers.

Finally, the most common causes of death among chicleros are falls from trees and snake bites. Rainfall peaks at about 200 inches a year, not 300. And chiclero's ulcer (aka La Mosca) is a form of Leishmaniasis, a disease caused by a microorganism (not a worm) that is transmitted by sand flies (not mosquitos), and which usually takes 15 to 25 years to cause damage to cartilage. These days it is easily cured. Williams may be confusing chiclero's ulcer with a bot-fly larva, known in Belize as "beef-worm," that does burrow into the skin (especially the scalp and elbows), which I can attest to be a painful process, though not debilitating.

Please, let's get outraged, steaming angry and vocal about rainforest destruction. But let's aim our anger at the right points; there are enough real problems without making up some that don't exist.

—Richard R. Wilk, also a Ph.D.

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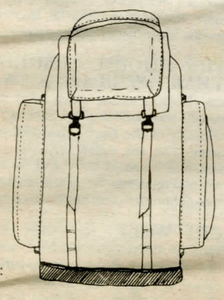

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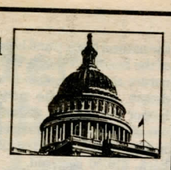

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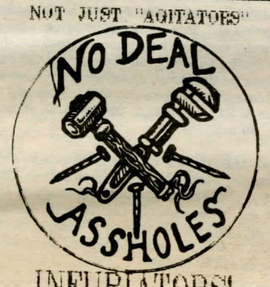

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Note: Greg Keeler's two cassettes are sold out. Instead of reproducing more of them as they now are, we are going to do a professional engineering production of both of them. Watch this section for their release later this summer.

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RESIST MUCH, OBEY LITTLE "Some Notes on Edward Abbey" edited by James Hepworth and Gregory McNamee. Fifteen distinguished writers comment on Edward Abbey as a major American author. Contributors include Wendell Berry, Gary Snyder, William Eastlake, and Barry Lopez. Also includes four interviews with Abbey. 127 pages, paperback. $9 postpaid.

GATHERING THE DESERT By Gary Paul Nabhan with illustrations by Paul Mirocha. If you love the Sonoran desert, you have to have this superbly written and illustrated book describing the natural history and human uses of the key plants of the Sonoran Desert. Destined to be an American nature classic. Nabhan is a careful observer of the desert, an exquisite writer with a fine sense of humor and place, a dedicated conservationist, and one of the world's leading ethnobotanists. Reviewed in May 1986 *Earth First!* 209 pages. Now in paperback. $16.50 postpaid.

FULL CIRCLE "The Poetry and Vision of Lone Wolf Circles." Early poetry and prose from Earth First!'s Lone Wolf Circles. Includes 10 full page prints of shamanistic wilderness art by Wolf. Almost out of print. 58 pages, paperback. $5 postpaid.

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A SAND COUNTY ALMANAC By Aldo Leopold. This environmental classic was selected by more reviewers in *Sierra* magazine's recent overview of significant environmental books than any other. Dave Foreman, in that article, called it not only the most important conservation book ever written, but the most important book ever written. Paperback, $9.50 postpaid.

THE GIFTING BIRDS "Toward An Art Of Having Place And Being Animal" by Charles Jones. This excellent volume of essays from Dream Garden Press deals with that most important need of our modern world — a sense of place. Reviewed in March 1986 *Earth First!*. Hardcover, 158 pages, $16 postpaid.

KILLING THE HIDDEN WATERS "The Slow Destruction Of Water Resources In The American Southwest" by Charles Bowden. Ed Abbey calls Bowden the "best social critic and environmental journalist now working in the American southwest." This important study examines groundwater depletion in southern Arizona and the Oglalla aquifer by European cultures and the earlier efforts by the Pima/Papago and Comanche to live in harmony with their dry lands. Reviewed in Samhain 86 *EF!*. Paperback, 206 pages, 36 photos, 6 maps, $9 postpaid.

BLUE DESERT By Charles Bowden. Published by the University of Arizona Press in 1986, this is an eloquent and penetrating study of the darker side of the Sunbelt. One chapter, entitled "Foreman," is about — guess who? Belongs on the shelf next to Abbey's "Desert Solitaire." Hardcover, 178 pages, $18.50 postpaid.

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THE AMERICAN CONSERVATION MOVEMENT "John Muir and His Legacy" by Stephen Fox. Both a history of the conservation movement and an important new biography of John Muir, this book is recommended as absolutely crucial to understanding the environmental movement. Well-written, heavily footnoted, with photographs, now in paperback, 436 pages, $16.50 postpaid.

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CRY WOLF! By Robert Hunter and Paul Watson. A stirring report from two of the founders of the original Greenpeace about the courageous efforts of Project Wolf in British Columbia to stop the demented wolf extermination campaign of the BC government. Reviewed in Nov. '85 *Earth First!*. 130 pages, paperback. $9 postpaid.

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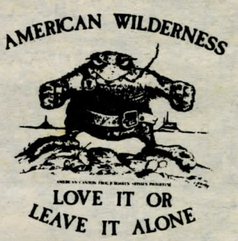

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